सिविल सेवा (प्रारंभिक) टेस्ट सीरीज़-2024

जब तक आपको यह परीक्षण पुस्तिका खोलने को न कहा जाए तब तक न खोलें

परीक्षण पुस्तिका अनुक्रम

Test Code: P1/P2/P3-2410

परीक्षण पुस्तिका

सामान्य अध्ययन

टेस्ट – 10

B

समय : दो घण्टे **पूर्णांक : 200**

अनुदेश

1. **परीक्षा प्रारम्भ होने के तुरन्त बाद, आप इस परीक्षण पुस्तिका की पड़ताल अवश्य कर लें कि इसमें कोई बिना छपा, फटा या छूटा हुआ पृष्ठ अथवा प्रश्न आदि न हो। यदि ऐसा हो तो इसे सही परीक्षण पुस्तिका से बदल लीजिए।**
2. **उत्तर-पत्रक में सही स्थान पर परीक्षण पुस्तिका अनुक्रम A, B, C या D यथास्थिति स्पष्ट रूप से कूटबद्ध कीजिये।**
3. इस पंक्ति के साथ में दिये गए कोष्ठक में आपको अपना अनुक्रमांक लिखना है। परीक्षण पुस्तिका पर **और कुछ न** लिखें।
4. इस परीक्षण पुस्तिका में **100** प्रश्नांश (प्रश्न) दिये गए हैं। प्रत्येक प्रश्नांश हिन्दी और अंग्रेज़ी में छपा है। प्रत्येक प्रश्नांश में चार प्रत्युत्तर (उत्तर) दिये गए हैं। इनमें से एक प्रत्युत्तर को चुन लें जिसे आप उत्तर-पत्रक पर अंकित करना चाहते हैं। यदि आपको ऐसा लगे कि एक से अधिक प्रत्युत्तर सही हैं तो उस प्रत्युत्तर को अंकित करें जो आपको सर्वोत्तम लगे। प्रत्येक प्रश्नांश के लिये केवल एक ही प्रत्युत्तर चुनना है।
5. आपको अपने सभी प्रत्युत्तर अलग से दिये गए उत्तर-पत्रक पर ही अंकित करने हैं। उत्तर-पत्रक में दिये गए निर्देश देख लें।
6. सभी प्रश्नों के अंक समान हैं।
7. इससे पहले कि आप परीक्षण पुस्तिका के विभिन्न प्रश्नांशों के प्रत्युत्तर उत्तर पत्रक पर अंकित करना शुरू करें, आपको प्रवेश प्रमाण-पत्र के साथ प्रेषित अनुदेशों के अनुसार कुछ विवरण उत्तर-पत्रक में देने हैं।
8. आप अपने सभी प्रत्युत्तरों को उत्तर-पत्रक में भरने के बाद तथा परीक्षा के समापन पर केवल उत्तर-पत्रक अधीक्षक को सौंप दें। आपको अपने साथ परीक्षण पुस्तिका ले जाने की अनुमति है।
9. कच्चे काम के लिये कुछ पत्रक परीक्षण पुस्तिका के अंत में संलग्न हैं।
10. **गलत उत्तरों के लिये दंड:**

वस्तुनिष्ठ प्रश्न-पत्रों में उम्मीदवार द्वारा दिये गए गलत उत्तरों के लिये दंड दिया जाएगा।

(i) प्रत्येक प्रश्न के लिये चार वैकल्पिक उत्तर हैं। उम्मीदवार द्वारा प्रत्येक प्रश्न के लिये दिये गए एक गलत उत्तर के लिये प्रश्न हेतु नियत किये गए अंकों का **एक-तिहाई** दंड के रूप में काटा जाएगा।

(ii) यदि कोई उम्मीदवार एक से अधिक उत्तर देता है, तो इसे **गलत उत्तर** माना जाएगा, चाहे दिये गए उत्तरों में से एक उत्तर सही हो, उस प्रश्न के लिये उपर्युक्तानुसार ही दंड दिया जाएगा।

(iii) यदि उम्मीदवार द्वारा कोई प्रश्न हल नहीं किया जाता है, अर्थात् उम्मीदवार द्वारा उत्तर नहीं दिया जाता है, तो उस प्रश्न के लिये **कोई दण्ड नहीं** दिया जाएगा।

जब तक आपको यह परीक्षण पुस्तिका खोलने को न कहा जाए तब तक न खोलें

***ध्यान दें :* अनुदेशों का अंग्रेज़ी रूपान्तर इस पुस्तिका के अंतिम पृष्ठ पर छपा है।**

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1. आर्द्रभूमि (संरक्षण और प्रबंधन) नियम 2017 के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. इन नियमों द्वारा केंद्रीय आर्द्रभूमि नियामक प्राधिकरण को राष्ट्रीय आर्द्रभूमि समिति से प्रतिस्थापित कर दिया गया है।
2. इन नियमों में "विवेकपूर्ण उपयोग के सिद्धांतों" की एक विस्तृत सूची प्रदान की गई है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1
(b) केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों
(d) न तो 1 और न ही 2

2. केंद्रीय प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड (CPCB) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. यह पर्यावरण (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1986 के तहत गठित एक सांविधिक निकाय है।
2. यह राज्यीय बोर्डों की गतिविधियों को समन्वित करता है तथा उनके मध्य विवादों का समाधान करता है।
3. इसकी अध्यक्षता पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय के केंद्रीय मंत्री करते हैं।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक *(b)* केवल दो
(c) सभी तीन *(d)* कोई भी नहीं

3. मानव पशु संघर्ष को कम करने से संबंधित पुनर्वास (RE-HAB) परियोजना के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. यह परियोजना खादी और ग्रामोद्योग आयोग (KVIC) की एक पहल है।
2. इसका उद्देश्य मानव बस्तियों में हाथियों के हमलों को कम करने के लिये मधुमक्खियों के बक्सों की बाड़ लगाना है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1
(b) केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों
(d) न तो 1 और न ही 2

4. प्रतिकरात्मक वनरोपण निधि (CAF) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. नियमों के मुताबिक, CAF का 50% धन राज्यों के बीच वितरित किया जाता है जबकि 50% केंद्र अपने पास रखता है।
2. इस निधि का उपयोग जलग्रहण क्षेत्रों में सुधार लाने, संरक्षित क्षेत्रों से अलग गाँवों को पुनर्वासित करने एवं वन संरक्षण उपायों के लिये किया जा सकता है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1 *(b)* केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों *(d)* न तो 1 और न ही 2

5. यूनाइटेड नेशन्स फोरम ऑन फॉरेस्ट (UNFF) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. इस फोरम में संयुक्त राष्ट्र के सभी सदस्य देश और विशेष एजेंसियाँ शामिल हैं।
2. यह संयुक्त राष्ट्र आर्थिक एवं सामाजिक परिषद (ECOSOC) की एक सहायक संस्था है।
3. इसका मुख्य उद्देश्य सभी प्रकार के वनों का संरक्षण और सतत् विकास करना है।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक *(b)* केवल दो
(c) सभी तीन *(d)* कोई भी नहीं

6. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. समुद्री खर-पतवार पुष्पों अथवा बीजों का उत्पादन नहीं करते हैं।
2. समुद्री घास संवहनी पादप हैं जिनमें वास्तविक तना, मूल और पत्तियाँ होती हैं।
3. समुद्री घास में जनन सामन्यत: बीजाणुओं के माध्यम से होता है।
4. समुद्री खर-पतवार को समुद्र का फेफड़ा/फुस्फुस माना जाता है।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक
(b) केवल दो
(c) केवल तीन
(d) सभी चार

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1. With reference to Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules 2017, consider the following statements:

1. The rules have replaced the Central Wetlands Regulatory Authority with the National Wetland Committee.
2. An exhaustive list of "wise use principles" has been provided in the rules.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

2. With reference to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), consider the following statements:

1. It is a statutory body formed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
2. It co-ordinates the activities of the State Boards and resolve disputes among them.
3. It is chaired by the Union minister of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one *(b)* Only two
(c) All three *(d)* None

3. With reference to project RE-HAB related to reducing human animal conflict, consider the following:

1. This project is an initiative of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC).
2. It is intended to create bee fences to reduce elephant attacks in human habitations.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

4. With reference to Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF), consider the following statements:

1. As per the rules, 50% of the CAF money is to be given to the states while 50% is to be retained by the Centre.
2. The funds can be used for treatment of catchment areas, relocation of villages from protected areas, and supply of wood saving devices.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only *(b)* 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 *(d)* Neither 1 nor 2

5. With reference to United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), consider the following statements:

1. The forum is composed of all member states of the United Nations and specialized agencies.
2. It is a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC).
3. Its main objective is conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

(a) Only one *(b)* Only two
(c) All three *(d)* None

6. Consider the following statements:

1. Seaweeds do not produce flowers or seeds.
2. Seagrasses are vascular plants that has true stem, roots and leaves.
3. Seagrasses generally reproduce via spores.
4. Seaweeds are considered the lungs of the sea.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

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7. निम्नलिखित पर विचार कीजिये:

1. सिंह
2. बाघ
3. चीता
4. तेंदुआ
5. प्यूमा
6. जगुआर
7. हिम तेंदुआ

बड़ी बिल्ली की उपर्युक्त में किन प्रजातियों में दहाड़ने की क्षमता होती है?

(a) 1, 2, 3 और 4
(b) 1,2, 5, 6 और 7
(c) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 और 7
(d) 1, 2, 4 और 6

8. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

कथन-I:

ध्रुवीय भालू (पोलर बीयर) केवल आर्कटिक क्षेत्र में पाए जाते हैं, अंटार्कटिका में नहीं।

कथन-II:

ध्रुवीय भालू उस समय अस्तित्व में आए जब उत्तरी तथा दक्षिणी ध्रुव हिम चादरों अथवा किसी भू-भाग द्वारा एक-दूसरे से संबद्ध नहीं थे।

उपर्युक्त कथनों के बारे में, निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा एक सही है?

(a) कथन-I और कथन-II दोनों सही हैं तथा कथन-II, कथन-I की सही व्याख्या है।
(b) कथन-I और कथन-II दोनों सही हैं तथा कथन-II, कथन-I की सही व्याख्या नहीं है।
(c) कथन-I सही है किंतु कथन-II गलत है।
(d) कथन-I गलत है किंतु कथन-II सही है।

9. निम्नलिखित पर विचार कीजिये:

1. तटीय विनियमन क्षेत्र अधिसूचना 2018 शैलेश नायक समिति की अनुशंसा पर आधारित थी।
2. राष्ट्रीय तटीय क्षेत्र प्रबंधन प्राधिकरण (NCZMA) पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय द्वारा स्थापित एक तदर्थ निकाय है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1
(b) केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों
(d) न तो 1 और न ही 2

10. निम्नलिखित पर विचार कीजिये:

1. वातावरण
2. अंटार्कटिका
3. बाह्य अंतरिक्ष
4. अंतर्राष्ट्रीय जलक्षेत्र

उपर्युक्त में से कितने को आमतौर पर 'वैश्विक कॉमन्स' के रूप में जाना जाता है?

(a) केवल एक
(b) केवल दो
(c) केवल तीन
(d) सभी चार

11. नारी शक्ति वंदन अधिनियम, 2023 के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. यह 106वाँ संविधान संशोधन अधिनियम, 2023 है जिसके माध्यम से लोकसभा, राज्यसभा और राज्य विधानमंडलों में महिलाओं को एक तिहाई आरक्षण प्रदान किया गया है।
2. इसमें अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति के लिये आरक्षित कुल सीटों के अंतर्गत महिलाओं के लिये एक तिहाई सीटों का आरक्षण शामिल है।
3. इस अधिनियम के प्रावधान लोकसभा और विधानसभाओं के विघटन तक किसी भी प्रतिनिधित्व को प्रभावित नहीं करेंगे।
4. सनसेट क्लॉज महिलाओं के लिये आरक्षण को सीमित करता है और संसद किसी भी परिस्थिति में इसे बढ़ाने में असमर्थ है।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक
(b) केवल दो
(c) केवल तीन
(d) सभी चार

12. एक साथ चुनाव के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. इसका उद्देश्य चुनावी व्यय को कम करना और प्रशासनिक दक्षता में सुधार करना है।
2. भारत में पहले कभी एक साथ चुनाव नहीं हुआ है।
3. यह क्षेत्रीय और स्थानीय मुद्दों के बेहतर प्रतिनिधित्व में सहायता प्रदान करता है।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक
(b) केवल दो
(c) केवल तीन
(d) कोई भी नहीं

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7. Consider the following:

1. Lion
2. Tiger
3. Cheetah
4. Leopard
5. Puma
6. Jaguar
7. Snow leopard

Which of the above big cat species have the ability to roar?

(a) 1, 2, 3 and 4
(b) 1,2, 5, 6 and 7
(c) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7
(d) 1, 2, 4 and 6

8. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I:
Polar bears are only found in the Arctic region and not in Antarctica.
Statement-II:
Polar bears evolved during a time when the North and South poles were not connected by ice or land.
Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

9. Consider the following:

1. Coastal Regulation Zone, 2018 notification was based on the recommendation of Shailesh Nayak committee.
2. The National Coastal Zone Management Authority (NCZMA) is an ad-hoc body created by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

10. Consider the following:

1. The atmosphere
2. Antarctica
3. The Outer Space
4. The High Seas

How many of the above are generally considered as the 'global commons'?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

11. With reference to the Nari Shakti Vandan Act 2023 consider the following statements:

1. It is the 106th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2023, to provide for one-third reservation to women in the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Legislatures.
2. It includes reservation of one-third seats for women under total number of seats reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes.
3. Provisions of this act shall not affect any representation in the Lok Sabha and legislative assemblies until their dissolution.
4. The reservation for women is bound by sunset clause and cannot be extended by the Parliament in any case.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

12. With reference to simultaneous elections consider the following statements:

1. It aims to reduce election expenditure and improve administrative efficiency.
2. India has never witnessed simultaneous elections in the past.
3. It is a tool for enhanced representation of regional and local issues.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

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13. वैश्विक जैव ईंधन गठबंधन के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. यह जैव ईंधन की उन्नति और व्यापक रूप से अपनाने के लिये वैश्विक सहयोग को बढ़ावा देने हेतु एक मंच प्रदान करेगा।
2. इसमें विकसित देशों द्वारा विकासशील देशों को प्रौद्योगिकी हस्तांतरण पर एक स्पष्ट समझौता शामिल किया गया है।
3. इसके सदस्य देश G20 के सदस्य हैं; इसमें G20 सदस्य देशों के अतिरिक्त कोई भी अन्य देश शामिल नहीं है।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक *(b)* केवल दो
(c) सभी तीन *(d)* कोई भी नहीं

14. निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा शहर फारस की खाड़ी से सीमा साझा ***नहीं*** करता है?

(a) दोहा *(b)* मित्सिवा
(c) मनामा *(d)* बंदर अब्बास

15. भारत आसियान संबंधों के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. आसियान में भारत की भागीदारी, क्षेत्रीय एकीकरण और बहुपक्षवाद के प्रति इसकी व्यापक प्रतिबद्धता का एक घटक है।
2. आसियान भारत की एक्ट ईस्ट पॉलिसी और इंडो-पैसिफिक विजन का केंद्र है एवं सुदूर पूर्व के लिये भारत के प्रवेश द्वार के रूप में कार्य करता है।
3. हाल ही में, दोनों ने इसे और अधिक व्यापार सुविधाजनक बनाने के लिये आसियान-भारत वस्तु व्यापार समझौता (AITIGA) संपन्न किया।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक *(b)* केवल दो
(c) सभी तीन *(d)* कोई भी नहीं

16. अब्राहम समझौते में शामिल सभी चार सदस्य देश निम्नलिखित में से किस समूह में उल्लिखित हैं?

(a) संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका, संयुक्त अरब अमीरात, इज़रायल, जॉर्डन
(b) संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका, इज़रायल, फिलिस्तीन, ईरान
(c) संयुक्त अरब अमीरात, यूनाइटेड किंगडम, इज़रायल, मोरक्को
(d) संयुक्त अरब अमीरात, इज़रायल, बहरीन, सूडान

17. 'ब्रांट लाइन' (Brandt Line) निम्नलिखित में से किससे संबंधित अवधारणा है?

(a) जलवायु क्षेत्र और कृषि उत्पादकता
(b) अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार और सीमा शुल्क अवरोध
(c) समृद्ध उत्तर और निर्धन दक्षिण के बीच आर्थिक असमानता
(d) भू-राजनीतिक संघर्ष और सीमा विवाद

18. भारत-संयुक्त अरब अमीरात स्थानीय मुद्रा निपटान प्रणाली के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. यह निर्यातकों और आयातकों को अपनी-अपनी घरेलू मुद्राओं में भुगतान करने में सक्षम बनाएगा तथा भारतीय रुपया और संयुक्त अरब अमीरात दिरहम विदेशी मुद्रा बाज़ार के विकास में सहायता प्रदान करेगा।
2. इसमें सभी पूर्णत: परिवर्तनीय चालू खाता विनिमय और पूंजी खाता विनिमय शामिल हैं।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1 *(b)* केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों *(d)* न तो 1 और न ही 2

19. निम्नलिखित देशों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. ईरान
2. चीन
3. रूस
4. तजाकिस्तान
5. उज़्बेकिस्तान
6. तुर्कमेनिस्तान

उपर्युक्त में से कितने देश कज़ाकिस्तान के साथ स्थल सीमा साझा करते हैं?

(a) केवल तीन *(b)* केवल चार
(c) केवल पाँच *(d)* सभी छह

20. भारतीय जैव सुरक्षा ज्ञान पोर्टल के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. इस पोर्टल के माध्यम से सरकार को जीवित संशोधित जीव से संबंधित अनुसंधान प्रस्तावों के आवेदन प्राप्त होते हैं।
2. यह पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय द्वारा संव्यवहार के लिये एक संवादात्मक ऑनलाइन वेब पोर्टल है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1 *(b)* केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों *(d)* न तो 1 और न ही 2

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13. With reference to the Global Biofuel Alliance, consider the following statements:

1. It is a platform for fostering global collaboration for the advancement and widespread adoption of biofuels.
2. There is an explicit agreement on technology transfer from developed nations to developing countries.
3. Its member countries are part of G20 grouping and no outside country is part of it.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one *(b)* Only two
(c) All three *(d)* None

14. Which amongst the following cities does ***not*** border Persian Gulf?

(a) Doha *(b)* Mitsiwa
(c) Manama *(d)* Bandar Abbas

15. With reference to India-ASEAN relationship consider the following statements:

1. India's engagement with ASEAN is part of its broader commitment to regional integration and multilateralism.
2. ASEAN is central to India's Act East Policy and Indo-Pacific Vision and serve as India's gateway to far East.
3. Recently, both have finalised the ASEAN- India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) to make it more business facilitative.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one *(b)* Only two
(c) All three *(d)* None

16. Which of the following groups are all the four of countries are the members of the Abraham Accord?

(a) USA, UAE, Israel, Jordan
(b) USA, Israel, Palestine, Iran
(c) UAE, UK, Israel, Morrocco
(d) UAE, Israel, Bahrain, Sudan

17. 'Brandt Line' is a concept related to which one of the following?

(a) Climatic zones and agricultural productivity
(b) International trade and tariffs barriers
(c) Economic disparity between affluent north and poor south
(d) Geopolitical conflicts and border disputes

18. With reference to India-UAE Local Currency Settlement System consider the following statements:

1. It will enable exporters and importers to pay in their respective domestic currencies and enable the development of an Indian Rupee and UAE Dirham forex market.
2. It covers all fully convertible current account transactions and capital account transactions.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only *(b)* 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 *(d)* Neither 1 nor 2

19. Consider the following countries:

1. Iran 2. China
3. Russia 4. Tajikistan
5. Uzbekistan 6. Turkmenistan

How many of the above-mentioned countries share a land border with Kazakhstan?

(a) Only three *(b)* Only four
(c) Only five *(d)* All six

20. With reference to Indian Biosafety Knowledge Portal, consider the following statements:

1. Through this portal, government receives applications of research proposals related to living modified organisms.
2. It is an interactive online web portal for transactions serviced by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only *(b)* 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 *(d)* Neither 1 nor 2

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21. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. जैवपूर्वेक्षण (बायोप्रोस्पेक्टिंग) वाणिज्य में प्राकृतिक रूप से पाए जाने वाले आनुवंशिक या जैव रासायनिक सामग्री के दोहन करने की प्रथा है।
2. बायोपाइरेसी छोटे अणुओं, वृहदणुओं और जैव रासायनिक एवं आनुवंशिक जानकारी के लिये प्राकृतिक संसाधनों की खोज है।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1 *(b)* केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों *(d)* न तो 1 और न ही 2

22. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. ब्रायोफाइट्स में, पादप छोटे तनों, साधारण पत्तियों एवं वास्तविक मूलों में विभेदित होता है।
2. मॉस, लिवरवर्ट्स और हॉर्नवॉर्ट्स भारतीय ब्रायोफ्लोरा के प्रमुख घटक हैं।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1 *(b)* केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों *(d)* न तो 1 और न ही 2

23. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. कार्टाजेना प्रोटोकॉल को उत्तरदायित्व और निवारण पर नागोया-कुआलालंपुर अनुपूरक प्रोटोकॉल द्वारा सुदृढ़ किया गया है।
2. जैव विविधता पर संयुक्त राष्ट्र अभिसमय के लिये कॉन्फ्रेंस ऑफ पार्टीज़-15 (COP-15) ने "कुनमिंग-मॉन्ट्रियल वैश्विक जैव विविधता फ्रेमवर्क" को अपनाने में प्रमुख भूमिका निभाई।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1 *(b)* केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों *(d)* न तो 1 और न ही 2

24. चांगवोन घोषणा निम्नलिखित में से किससे संबंधित है?

(a) मानव कल्याण और आर्द्रभूमि
(b) मानव-पशु संघर्ष
(c) गंगा डॉल्फिन का संरक्षण
(d) अपशिष्ट प्रबंधन

25. पर्यावरण प्रभाव आकलन (EIA) सर्वोत्तम रूप से निम्नलिखित में से किसको संदर्भित करता है?

(a) औद्योगिक गतिविधियों की आलोचना के लिये पर्यावरण कार्यकर्त्ताओं द्वारा तैयार की गई एक रिपोर्ट
(b) किसी प्रस्तावित परियोजना को शुरू करने से पहले उसके पर्यावरणीय प्रभावों का आकलन करने के लिये एक अध्ययन
(c) पर्यावरण पर मानवीय गतिविधियों के किसी भी नकारात्मक परिणाम को रोकने की एक प्रक्रिया
(d) प्राकृतिक परिवेश पर विकास परियोजनाओं के वास्तविक प्रभाव को छिपाने की एक प्रक्रिया

26. रेडियोधर्मी अपशिष्ट के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. रेडियोधर्मी अपशिष्ट सैन्य गतिविधियों और चिकित्सा, अनुसंधान एवं उद्योग में लाभकारी प्रक्रिया द्वारा उत्पादित होता है।
2. अल्फा कण ऋणावेशित हीलियम परमाणु होते हैं जबकि बीटा कण धनावेशित इलेक्ट्रॉन होते हैं।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1 *(b)* केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों *(d)* न तो 1 और न ही 2

27. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. उद्योग से उत्सर्जित शोर को राज्य प्रदूषण नियंत्रण बोर्ड द्वारा विनियमित किया जाता है।
2. ध्वनि प्रदूषण को पर्यावरण संरक्षण अधिनियम 1986 के तहत अलग से विनियमित किया जाता है।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1 *(b)* केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों *(d)* न तो 1 और न ही 2

28. प्लास्टीकल्चर निम्नलिखित में से किसको सर्वोत्तम रूप से संदर्भित करता है?

(a) कृषि अनुप्रयोगों में प्लास्टिक सामग्री का उपयोग करना
(b) जैव निम्नीकरणीय प्लास्टिक के उपयोग को कम करने का एक तरीका
(c) कॉस्मेटिक उद्योग में प्लास्टिक सामग्री का उपयोग
(d) प्लास्टिक का उपयोग कम करने की सामाजिक पहल

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21. Consider the following statements:

1. Bioprospecting is the practice of exploiting naturally occurring genetic or biochemical material in commerce.
2. Biopiracy is the exploration of natural resources for small molecules, macromolecules and biochemical and genetic information.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only *(b)* 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 *(d)* Neither 1 nor 2

22. Consider the following statements:

1. In bryophytes, the plant body is differentiated into a small stem, simple leaves and true roots.
2. Mosses, liverworts and hornworts constitute the major component of Indian bryoflora.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only *(b)* 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 *(d)* Neither 1 nor 2

23. Consider the following statements:

1. The Cartagena Protocol is reinforced by the Nagoya— Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress.
2. Conference of Parties-15 (COP15) to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity led to adoption of Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only *(b)* 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 *(d)* Neither 1 nor 2

24. Changwon Declaration is associated with which of the following?

(a) Human well-being and wetlands
(b) Man-animal conflict
(c) Conservation of Gangetic dolphin
(d) Waste management

25. Environment Impact Assessment best refers to which of the following?

(a) A report prepared by environmental activists to criticize industrial activities
(b) A study to predict the environmental effects of a proposed project before it is undertaken
(c) A procedure to prevent any negative consequences of human activities on the environment
(d) A method to hide the true impact of development projects on the natural surroundings

26. Consider the following statements with reference to radioactive waste:

1. Radioactive waste is produced by military activities and beneficial practices in medicine, research and industry.
2. Alpha particles are negatively charged Helium atoms whereas beta particles are positively charged electrons.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only *(b)* 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 *(d)* Neither 1 nor 2

27. Consider the following statements:

1. Noise emanating from industry is regulated by State Pollution Control Board.
2. Noise pollution is regulated separately under the Environment Protection Act 1986.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only *(b)* 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 *(d)* Neither 1 nor 2

28. Plasticulture best refers to which of the following?

(a) Using plastic materials in agricultural applications.
(b) A way to minimize the use of biodegradable plastics.
(c) Using plastic materials in cosmetic industry.
(d) Societal initiative to minimize the use of plastic.

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29. निम्नलिखित पर विचार कीजिये:

1. चक्रवात
2. सूखा
3. बादल फटना
4. कीट हमला
5. पाला और शीत लहरें
6. आकाशीय बिजली

उपर्युक्त में से कितनी आपदाएँ राज्य आपदा राहत कोष (SDRF) के अंतर्गत शामिल हैं?

(a) केवल तीन *(b)* केवल पाँच
(d) सभी चार *(c)* केवल छह

30. कास पठार के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. यह एक यूनेस्को विश्व प्राकृतिक धरोहर स्थल और एक नामित जैव विविधता तप्तस्थल है।
2. यह आंध्र प्रदेश और कर्नाटक में विस्तृत है।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1 *(b)* केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों *(d)* न तो 1 और न ही 2

31. हूलॉक गिब्बन के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. यह भारत में पाई जाने वाली वनमानुषों की एकमात्र प्रजाति है।
2. ये केवल पश्चिमी घाट और उसके आसपास के क्षेत्रों में पाए जाते हैं।
3. ये दिवाचर और वृक्ष पर रहने वाले जंतु हैं।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक *(b)* केवल दो
(c) सभी तीन *(d)* कोई भी नहीं

32. निम्नलिखित में से किस निकाय ने राष्ट्रीय कार्बन रजिस्ट्री विमोचित की है?

(a) पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय
(b) संयुक्त राष्ट्र विकास कार्यक्रम
(c) बॉम्बे नेचुरल हिस्ट्री सोसाइटी
(d) विश्व बैंक

33. 'इकोसाइड' पद निम्नलिखित में से किसको सर्वोत्तम रूप से संदर्भित करता है?

(a) मानवीय गतिविधियों द्वारा पारिस्थितिक तंत्र का सुविचारित विनाश।
(b) पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में विकृति के पश्चात इसके संपोषण की प्राकृतिक प्रक्रिया।
(c) पर्यावरणीय गिरावट में योगदान देने वाले आर्थिक कारकों का अध्ययन।
(d) संकटग्रस्त प्रजातियों और उनके अधिवासों की विधिक सुरक्षा।

34. जलवायु परिवर्तन और समुद्र विज्ञान के संदर्भ में 'अटलांटिकीकरण' शब्द का क्या अर्थ है?

(a) अटलांटिक महासागर में समुद्र की सतह के तापमान में वृद्धि।
(b) अटलांटिक महासागर में हरिकेन और चक्रवात का निर्माण।
(c) उत्तरी अटलांटिक क्षेत्र में अलवणीकरण की एक प्रक्रिया जिसके कारण समुद्री पारिस्थितिक तंत्र में परिवर्तन होता है।
(d) आर्कटिक महासागर की विशेषताओं को अटलांटिक महासागर के समान बनाने वाली एक घटना।

35. निम्नलिखित युग्मों पर विचार कीजिये:

राज्य		*महोत्सव*
1. आंध्र प्रदेश	:	उगादि
2. मध्य प्रदेश	:	खर्ची पूजा
3. कर्नाटक	:	करागा
4. गोवा	:	शिग्मो मेला

उपर्युक्त में से कितने युग्म सही सुमेलित हैं?

(a) केवल एक *(b)* केवल दो
(c) केवल तीन *(d)* सभी चार

36. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. वीरांगना दुर्गावती बाघ आरक्षित क्षेत्र उत्तर प्रदेश का 7वाँ बाघ आरक्षित क्षेत्र बन गया है।
2. नवीनतम बाघ गणना के अनुसार कर्नाटक में बाघों की आबादी सर्वाधिक है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1 *(b)* केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों *(d)* न तो 1 और न ही 2

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29. Consider the following:

1. Cyclone
2. Drought
3. Cloud Burst
4. Pest attack
5. Frost and cold waves
6. Lightning

How many of the above disasters are covered under State Disaster Relief Fund (SDRF)?

(a) Only three *(b)* Only four
(c) Only five *(d)* All six

30. With reference to Kaas Plateau, consider the following statements:

1. It is a UNESCO World Natural Heritage Site and a designated biodiversity hotspot.
2. It is spread across Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only *(b)* 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 *(d)* Neither 1 nor 2

31. With reference to Hoolock Gibbon, consider the following statements:

1. It is the only species of apes found in India.
2. They are found only in the Western Ghats and its surrounding areas.
3. They are diurnal and arboreal.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one *(b)* Only two
(c) All three *(d)* None

32. Which of the following bodies has launched the National Carbon Registry?

(a) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(b) United Nations Development Programme
(c) Bombay Natural History Society
(d) World Bank

33. The term 'Ecocide' best refers to which of the following?

(a) The intentional destruction of ecosystems by human activities.
(b) The natural process of ecosystem regeneration after a disturbance.
(c) The study of economic factors that contribute to environmental degradation.
(d) The legal protection of endangered species and their habitats.

34. What does the term 'Atlantification' refer to in the context of climate change and oceanography?

(a) An increase in sea surface temperatures in the Atlantic Ocean.
(b) The formation of hurricanes and cyclones in the Atlantic Ocean.
(c) A process of desalination in the North Atlantic region leading to changes in marine ecosystems.
(d) A phenomenon making Arctic Ocean more similar in characteristics to the Atlantic Ocean.

35. Consider the following pairs:

	State		*Festival*
1.	Andhra Pradesh	:	Ugadi
2.	Madhya Pradesh	:	Kharchi Puja
3.	Karnataka	:	Karaga
4.	Goa	:	Shigmo Mela

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

(a) Only one *(b)* Only two
(c) Only three *(d)* All four

36. Consider the following statements:

1. Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve has become the 7th tiger reserve of Uttar Pradesh.
2. Karnataka has the maximum tiger population as per the latest Tiger Census.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only *(b)* 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 *(d)* Neither 1 nor 2

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37. निम्नलिखित पर विचार कीजिये:

1. कोसी
2. गंडक
3. घाघरा
4. दामोदर
5. यमुना

उपर्युक्त में से कितनी नदियों का उद्गम भारत में ***नहीं*** है?

(a) केवल दो *(b)* केवल तीन

(c) केवल चार *(d)* सभी पाँच

38. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

कथन-I:

विश्व में फॉस्फोरस का सबसे बड़ा निक्षेप मोरक्को और पश्चिमी सहारा क्षेत्र में है।

कथन-II:

भारत के गोंडवाना क्षेत्र में फॉस्फोरस का पर्याप्त निक्षेप है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों के बारे में, निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा एक सही है?

(a) कथन-I और कथन-II दोनों सही हैं तथा कथन-II, कथन-I की सही व्याख्या है।

(b) कथन-I और कथन-II दोनों सही हैं तथा कथन-II, कथन-I की सही व्याख्या नहीं है।

(c) कथन-I सही है किंतु कथन-II गलत है।

(d) कथन-I गलत है किंतु कथन-II सही है।

39. निम्नलिखित में से कौन 'एशियाई प्रीमियम' का सर्वोत्तम वर्णन करता है?

(a) यह संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका द्वारा दक्षिण एशियाई देशों को कम सीमा शुल्क का भुगतान करने का एक लाभ है।

(b) यह पेट्रोलियम निर्यातक देशों के संगठन (OPEC) देशों द्वारा एशियाई देशों को पेट्रोलियम विक्रय के समय वसूला जाने वाला अतिरिक्त शुल्क है।

(c) यह नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा की ओर बढ़ने के प्रयासों के लिये एशियाई देशों को दिया जाने वाला अतिरिक्त कार्बन क्रेडिट है।

(d) यह दक्षिण एशियाई देशों से उत्पादों का आयात करते समय यूरोपीय देशों से लिया जाने वाला अतिरिक्त शुल्क है।

40. राष्ट्रीय तकनीकी वस्त्र मिशन के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. यह विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय की एक पहल है।
2. इस पहल की कार्यान्वयन अवधि चार वर्ष है।
3. यह मिशन 'मेक इन इंडिया' पहल को सहयोग प्रदान करता है।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक *(b)* केवल दो

(c) सभी तीन *(d)* कोई भी नहीं

41. निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा विकल्प ग्रेशम के नियम का सर्वोत्तम वर्णन करता है?

(a) यह मुद्रा के अंकित मूल्य और उसके उत्पादन की लागत के बीच का अंतर है।

(b) यह उस स्थिति को संदर्भित करता है जिसमें एक नियत विनिमय दर प्रणाली में अति स्फीति वाली मुद्रा को अति मूल्यांकित अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा से बदल दिया जाता है।

(c) यह उस स्थिति को संदर्भित करता है जब अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार बाज़ार में अस्थायी विनिमय दर पर मुद्रा का अधिमूल्यन किया जाता है।

(d) यह किसी मुद्रा के वास्तविक मूल्य और मुद्रा के बढ़े हुए मूल्य का अनुपात है।

42. G20 टेक स्प्रिंट के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. यह विश्व बैंक की एक पहल है।
2. यह जलवायु परिवर्तन से निपटने के लिये सर्वोत्तम तकनीकी समाधान विकसित करने का उद्देश्य रखती है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1 *(b)* केवल 2

(c) 1 और 2 दोनों *(d)* न तो 1 और न ही 2

43. 'जेनरेटिव AI एंड जॉब्स' रिपोर्ट प्रकाशित की जाती है

(a) अंतर्राष्ट्रीय श्रम संगठन द्वारा

(b) विश्व आर्थिक मंच द्वारा

(c) विश्व बैंक द्वारा

(d) इकोनॉमिस्ट इंटेलिजेंस यूनिट द्वारा

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37. Consider the following:

1. Kosi
2. Gandak
3. Ghagra
4. Damodar
5. Yamuna

How many of the above rivers do not have their origin in India?

(a) Only two *(b)* Only three
(c) Only four *(d)* All five

38. Consider the following statements:
Statement-I:
The world's largest reserves of phosphorus are in Morocco and the Western Sahara region.
Statement-II:
India has substantial amount of phosphorus reserve in Gondwana region.
Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

39. Which of the following best describes 'Asian Premium'?

(a) It is an advantage given to South Asian countries to pay lesser custom duties by United States of America.
(b) It is the extra charge being collected by Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) countries from Asian countries when selling oil.
(c) It is the extra carbon credit given to Asian countries for their efforts in shifting towards renewable energy.
(d) It is the extra charge taken of European countries while importing products from south Asian countries.

40. Consider the following statements with reference to National Technical Textiles Mission:

1. It is an initiative of the Ministry of Science and Technology.
2. The initiative has an implementation period of four years.
3. The mission is supporting Make in India initiative.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

(a) Only one *(b)* Only two
(c) All three *(d)* None

41. Which of the following best describes Gresham's Law?

(a) It is the difference between the face value of money and the cost to produce it.
(b) It refers to a situation in which a hyperinflated currency is replaced by overvalued international currency in a fixed exchange rate system.
(c) It refers to a situation when currency is appreciated in the international trade market at a floating exchange rate.
(d) It is the ratio of the actual value of a currency to the inflated value of the currency.

42. Consider the following statements with reference to G20 TechSprint:

1. It is an initiative by the World Bank.
2. It seeks to develop the best technological solution for addressing climate change.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only *(b)* 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 *(d)* Neither 1 nor 2

43. The report 'Generative AI and Jobs' has been published by

(a) International Labour Organization
(b) World Economic Forum
(c) World Bank
(d) Economist Intelligence Unit

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44. निम्न पर विचार कीजिये:

1. खुला बाज़ार बिक्री योजना
2. मानसून परिवर्तनशीलता
3. न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य (MSP) नीति
4. विनिमय दर में उतार-चढ़ाव
5. कीट एवं रोगों का प्रकोप

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कारक भारत में खाद्य मुद्रास्फीति को प्रभावित करते हैं?

(a) केवल दो *(b)* केवल तीन
(c) केवल चार *(d)* सभी पाँच

45. एक्वायर्ड इम्यूनोडेफिशिएंसी सिंड्रोम (एड्स) के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. यह ह्यूमन इम्यूनोडेफिशिएंसी वायरस (HIV) के कारण होता है, जो समय के साथ प्रतिरक्षा प्रणाली को कमज़ोर कर देता है।
2. एंटीरेट्रोवाइरल थेरेपी (ART) एड्स के लिये एक चिकित्सा उपचार है जो शरीर में HIV की प्रतिकृति को प्रभावी ढंग से उपचारित कर सकती है।
3. एड्स का उपचार आसानी से उपलब्ध है और वैश्विक स्तर पर HIV महामारी में गिरावट आई है।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक *(b)* केवल दो
(c) सभी तीन *(d)* कोई भी नहीं

46. राष्ट्रीय बहुआयामी गरीबी सूचकांक के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. यह रिपोर्ट सामाजिक आर्थिक और जाति जनगणना (SECC) के आधार पर तैयार की गई है।
2. इसमें तीन असमान महत्त्व वाले आयाम शामिल हैं- स्वास्थ्य, शिक्षा और जीवन स्तर।
3. यह रिपोर्ट नीति आयोग द्वारा जारी की जाती है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1
(b) केवल 1 और 3
(c) केवल 3
(d) 1, 2 और 3

47. निम्न पर विचार कीजिये:

1. विद्यालयों और अस्पतालों पर हमले
2. मानवीय सहायता से इनकार
3. परमाणु युद्ध
4. जातीय संहार

उपर्युक्त में से कितनों को संयुक्त राष्ट्र द्वारा बालकों के विरुद्ध 'गंभीर उल्लंघन' के रूप में पहचाना गया है?

(a) केवल एक
(b) केवल दो
(c) केवल तीन
(d) सभी चार

48. 'एडॉप्ट ए हेरिटेज़ प्रोग्राम' के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. इसे पर्यटन मंत्रालय द्वारा, संस्कृति मंत्रालय और भारतीय पुरातत्त्व सर्वेक्षण के सहयोग से विमोचित किया गया है।
2. स्थलों/स्मारकों को केवल निजी और सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की कंपनियों द्वारा गोद लिया जा सकता है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1
(b) केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों
(d) न तो 1 और न ही 2

49. शांतिनिकेतन के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित पर विचार कीजिये:

1. ध्यान के लिये इसके अनुकूल वातावरण के कारण रबींद्रनाथ टैगोर द्वारा इसका नाम परिवर्तित किया गया था।
2. यह विश्व भारती विश्वविद्यालय के रूप में विकसित हुआ।
3. यह पाठशाला प्रणाली पर आधारित है।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही है?

(a) केवल एक
(b) केवल दो
(c) सभी तीन
(d) कोई भी नहीं

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44. Consider the following:

1. Open market sale scheme
2. Monsoon Variability
3. Minimum Support Price (MSP) policy
4. Exchange rate fluctuations
5. Outbreak of pest and diseases

How many of the above factors affect the food inflation in India?

(a) Only two *(b)* Only three
(c) Only four *(d)* All five

45. With reference to Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS), consider the following statements:

1. It is caused by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), which weakens the immune system over time.
2. Antiretroviral therapy (ART) is a medical treatment for AIDS that can effectively suppress the replication of HIV in the body.
3. AIDS has a cure that is readily available, and the global HIV epidemic is on the decline.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

(a) Only one *(b)* Only two
(c) All three *(d)* None

46. With reference to National Multidimensional Poverty Index, consider the following statements:

1. The report has been prepared based on the Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC).
2. It covers three unequally weighted dimensions – Health, Education, and Standard of living.
3. The report is released by the NITI Aayog.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

47. Consider the following:

1. Attacks against schools and hospitals
2. Denial of humanitarian assistance
3. Nuclear warfare
4. Ethnic cleansing

How many of the above are identified as the 'grave violations' against children by the United Nations?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

48. With reference to 'Adopt a Heritage Programme', consider the following statements:

1. It is launched under Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Culture and Archaeological Survey of India.
2. The sites/monuments can be adopted by private and public sector companies only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

49. With reference to Santiniketan, consider the following:

1. It was named by Rabindranath Tagore due to its conducive environment for meditation.
2. It evolved into the Visva Bharti University.
3. It is based on the Pathshala system.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

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50. परमाणु बम के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. परमाणु बम का पहला सफल परीक्षण प्रथम विश्व युद्ध के दौरान हुआ था।
2. परमाणु बम परमाणु विखंडन के सिद्धांत पर आधारित है।
3. मैनहट्टन प्रोजेक्ट एक अनुसंधान और विकास कार्यक्रम था जिसके कारण द्वितीय विश्व युद्ध के दौरान पहला परमाणु बम बनाया गया था।
4. वर्ष 1945 में हिरोशिमा और नागासाकी पर बमबारी युद्ध में परमाणु हथियारों का पहला और एकमात्र उपयोग था।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही है?

(a) केवल एक
(b) केवल दो
(c) केवल तीन
(d) सभी चार

51. निम्नलिखित युग्मों पर विचार कीजिये:

महासागरीय धारा		*संबंधित देश*
1. अगुलहास धारा	:	दक्षिण अफ्रीका
2. हम्बोल्ट धारा	:	चिली
3. बेंगुएला धारा	:	पेरू
4. नॉर्वेजियन धारा	:	नॉर्वे

उपर्युक्त में से कितने युग्म सही सुमेलित हैं?

(a) केवल एक
(b) केवल दो
(c) केवल तीन
(d) सभी चार

52. प्रवाल भित्तियों के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. प्रवाल प्रकाश संश्लेषण द्वारा अपने लिये भोजन का निर्माण करते हैं।
2. जूजैंथिली प्रवाल को उनके आकर्षक रंग प्रदान करता है।
3. प्रवाल भित्तियों के निर्माण के लिये ऊष्मीय तापमान के साथ हल्के अम्लीकरण की आवश्यकता होती है।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक *(b)* केवल दो
(c) सभी तीन *(d)* कोई भी नहीं

53. भूमध्यसागरीय जलवायु के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. इसकी विशेषता शुष्क एवं उष्ण ग्रीष्मकाल, वर्षा एवं शीत सर्दियाँ हैं।
2. यह केवल दक्षिणी यूरोप और उत्तरी अफ्रीका में ही उपलब्ध है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1
(b) केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों
(d) न तो 1 और न ही 2

54. निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा राजधानी शहर कर्क रेखा से सर्वाधिक दूर स्थित है?

(a) गांधीनगर, भोपाल
(b) रायपुर, कोलकाता
(c) आइज़ोल, अगरतला
(d) भोपाल, कोलकाता

55. निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा दक्षिण से उत्तर तक पर्वतों का सही क्रम है?

(a) शिवालिक, पीर पंजाल, लद्दाख श्रेणी, जास्कर श्रेणी
(b) पीर पंजाल, शिवालिक, जास्कर श्रेणी, लद्दाख श्रेणी
(c) पीर पंजाल, शिवालिक, लद्दाख श्रेणी, जास्कर श्रेणी
(d) शिवालिक, पीर पंजाल, जास्कर श्रेणी, लद्दाख श्रेणी

56. चंबल नदी के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. यह अरावली पहाड़ियों से उद्गमित होती है तथा मध्य प्रदेश एवं उत्तर प्रदेश की सीमा के पास गंगा नदी में मिल जाती है।
2. नदी की खड्ड भूमि का विस्तार आज भी जारी है।
3. भारत का राष्ट्रीय जलीय जीव गंगा डॉल्फिन इस नदी में पाई जाती है।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक
(b) केवल दो
(c) सभी तीन
(d) कोई भी नहीं

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50. With reference to atom bomb, consider the following statements:

1. The first successful test of an atom bomb took place during World War I.
2. The atom bomb is based on the principle of nuclear fission.
3. The Manhattan Project was a research and development program that led to the creation of the first atom bomb during World War II.
4. The bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945 marked the first and only use of atomic weapons in warfare.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

51. Consider the following pairs:

	Ocean Current		*Country in influence*
1.	Agulhas Current	:	South Africa
2.	Humbolt Current	:	Chile
3.	Benguela Current	:	Peru
4.	Norwegian Current	:	Norway

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) Only three
(d) All four

52. Consider the following statements with reference to coral reefs:

1. Coral polyps prepare food for themselves by Photosynthesis.
2. Zooxanthellae provide corals with their striking colors.
3. The formation of Coral reef requires warm temperature and slight acidification.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one *(b)* Only two
(c) All three *(d)* None

53. Consider the following statements with reference to the Mediterranean climate:

1. It is characterized by dry and hot summers, rainy and cold winters.
2. It is only located in southern Europe and northern Africa.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

54. Which of the following pairs of capital cities are located farthest from Tropic of Cancer?

(a) Gandhinagar, Bhopal
(b) Raipur, Kolkata
(c) Aizawl, Agartala
(d) Bhopal, Kolkata

55. Which of the following is the correct sequence of mountains from South to North?

(a) Shiwalik , Pir Panjal , Ladakh Range, Zaskar Range
(b) Pir Panjal , Shiwalik , Zaskar Range, Ladakh Range
(c) Pir Panjal, Shiwalik , Ladakh Range, Zaskar Range
(d) Shiwalik, Pir Panjal, Zaskar Range, Ladakh Range

56. Consider the following statements with reference to Chambal River:

1. It originates from the Aravalli hills and join Ganga River near Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh border.
2. The ravines of the river are spreading continuously till now.
3. India's national aquatic animal, the gangetic dolphin is found in the river.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

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57. निम्नलिखित नदियों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. वंशधारा
2. शेत्रुंजी
3. पेन्नार
4. ब्राह्मणी
5. मांडवी
6. पेरियार

उपर्युक्त में से कितनी नदियाँ अरब सागर में गिरती हैं?

(a) केवल दो
(b) केवल तीन
(c) केवल चार
(d) केवल पाँच

58. भारत के निम्नलिखित में से किस भाग में मानसून का आगमन सर्वप्रथम होता है?

(a) मालाबार तट
(b) मासिनराम
(c) अंडमान एवं निकोबार
(d) लक्षद्वीप द्वीपसमूह

59. भारत के निम्नलिखित में से किस क्षेत्र में दक्षिण-पश्चिम मानसून के दौरान वर्षा नहीं होती है लेकिन सर्दियों के दौरान वर्षा होती है?

(a) कोरोमंडल तट
(b) बुंदेलखंड पठार
(c) रायलसीमा क्षेत्र
(d) मालवा का पठार

60. निम्नलिखित युग्मों पर विचार कीजिये:

घासस्थल		*देश*
1. पंपास	:	अर्ज़ेंटीना
2. वेल्ड	:	नाइज़ीरिया
3. लानोस	:	वेनेज़ुएला
4. हुलुनबुइर	:	मंगोलिया

उपर्युक्त में से कितने युग्म सही सुमेलित हैं?

(a) केवल एक
(b) केवल दो
(c) केवल तीन
(d) सभी चार

61. ओकावंगो डेल्टा किस देश में स्थित है?

(a) तंज़ानिया
(b) युगांडा
(c) बोत्सवाना
(d) कांगो लोकतांत्रिक गणराज्य

62. निम्नलिखित पर विचार कीजिये:

1. ब्रह्मांडीय विकिरण और ग्रहीय पिंडों के साथ इसकी अंत:क्रिया।
2. ज्वालामुखी प्रस्फुटन।
3. अंतरातारकीय धूल कणों का क्रमिक संचय।

उपर्युक्त घटनाओं में से कितनों ने पृथ्वी की उत्पत्ति और विकास में योगदान दिया है?

(a) केवल एक
(b) केवल दो
(c) सभी तीन
(d) कोई भी नहीं

63. अपक्षय और अपरदन महत्त्वपूर्ण भूवैज्ञानिक प्रक्रियाएँ हैं जो पृथ्वी की सतह को आकार देती हैं। निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा कथन अपक्षय और अपरदन के बीच अंतर का सर्वोत्तम वर्णन करता है?

(a) अपक्षय चट्टानों का भौतिक विघटन है, जबकि क्षरण में चट्टानी खनिजों का रासायनिक परिवर्तन शामिल है।
(b) अपक्षय में चट्टान का विघटन और अपघटन शामिल है, जबकि क्षरण में अपक्षयित चट्टान का निष्कर्षण और परिवहन करना शामिल है।
(c) अपक्षय वायु और जल द्वारा तलछट की गति है, जबकि अपरदन अत्यधिक तापमान के संपर्क में आने से चट्टानों का अपघटन है।
(d) अपक्षय का तात्पर्य ग्लेशियरों द्वारा पृथ्वी की सतह के क्षरण से है, जबकि अपरदन विवर्तनिक बलों के कारण चट्टानों का कायांतरण है।

64. निम्न पर विचार कीजिये:

1. समय
2. जलवायु
3. स्थलाकृति
4. मूल पदार्थ
5. जैविक क्रियाएँ

उपर्युक्त में से कितने मृदा निर्माण में योगदान देने वाले कारक हैं?

(a) केवल दो
(b) केवल तीन
(c) केवल चार
(d) सभी पाँच

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57. Consider the following rivers:

1. Vamshadhara
2. Shetrunji
3. Penner
4. Brahmani
5. Mondovi
6. Periyar

How many of the above rivers drain into Arabian Sea?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) Only five

58. Amongst which of the following part of India, the arrival of monsoon is earliest?

(a) Malabar Coast
(b) Mawsynram
(c) Andaman and Nicobar Islands
(d) Lakshadweep Islands

59. Amongst which of the following regions of India there is no rainfall during Southwest Monsoon but receive rainfall during Winter?

(a) Coromandel Coast
(b) Bundelkhand Plateau
(c) Rayalaseema Region
(d) Malabar Coast

60. Consider the following pairs:

Grassland		*Countries*
1. Pampas	:	Argentina
2. Velds	:	Nigeria
3. Llanos	:	Venezuela
4. Hulunbuir	:	Mongolia

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

(a) Only one *(b)* Only two
(c) Only three *(d)* All Four

61. In which country is the Okavango Delta situated?

(a) Tanzania
(b) Uganda
(c) Botswana
(d) Democratic Republic of Congo

62. Consider the following:

1. Cosmic radiation and its interaction with planetary bodies.
2. The eruption of volcanoes.
3. The gradual accumulation of interstellar dust particles.

How many of the above phenomenon have contributed for origin and evolution of earth?

(a) Only one *(b)* Only two
(c) All three *(d)* None

63. Weathering and erosion are significant geological processes that shape the Earth's surface. Which of the following statements best describes the difference between weathering and erosion?

(a) Weathering is the physical breakdown of rocks, while erosion involves the chemical alteration of rock minerals.
(b) Weathering is disintegration and decomposition of rock material, while erosion involves the removal and transport of weathered rock material.
(c) Weathering is the movement of sediment by wind and water, while erosion is the decomposition of rocks by exposure to extreme temperatures.
(d) Weathering refers to the wearing away of Earth's surface by glaciers, while erosion is the transformation of rocks due to tectonic forces.

64. Consider the following:

1. Time
2. Climate
3. Topography
4. Parent material
5. Biological activity

How many of the above are contributing factors for soil formation?

(a) Only two
(b) Only three
(c) Only four
(d) All five

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65. निम्नलिखित युग्मों पर विचार कीजिये:

भू-आकृतियाँ		*स्थलाकृति*
1. बरखान	:	कार्स्ट
2. स्टैलेक्टाइट	:	एओलियन
3. हिमोढ़	:	हिमनद

उपर्युक्त में से कितने युग्म सही सुमेलित हैं?

(a) केवल एक *(b)* केवल दो

(c) सभी तीन *(d)* कोई भी नहीं

66. निम्न पर विचार कीजिये

1. मछुवाही नौवहन (Fishing navigation)
2. ज़हाजों को पोताश्रय में प्रवेश करने से रोकना
3. अवसादों का विगादन करना
4. विद्युत शक्ति उत्पन्न करना

उपर्युक्त में से कितने ज्वार के संभावित अनुप्रयोग हैं?

(a) केवल एक *(b)* केवल दो

(c) केवल तीन *(d)* सभी चार

67. रॉटरडैम अभिसमय के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. यह खतरनाक रसायनों और कीटनाशकों के अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार के विनियमन से संबंधित है।
2. इसमें स्वास्थ्य अथवा पर्यावरणीय कारणों से गंभीर रूप से प्रतिबंधित औद्योगिक रसायनों को शामिल किया गया है।
3. यह अभिसमय विधिक रूप से बाध्यकारी नहीं है।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक *(b)* केवल दो

(c) सभी तीन *(d)* कोई भी नहीं

68. अंतर्राष्ट्रीय ह्वेलिंग आयोग के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. इसका उद्देश्य व्हेल से प्राप्त उत्पादों का उचित संरक्षण और इससे संबंधित उद्योग का क्रमिक विकास करना है।
2. यह सदस्य देशों, अंतर्राष्ट्रीय एजेंसियों और गैर-सरकारी संगठनों का एक स्वैच्छिक गठबंधन है।
3. भारत, कनाडा और जापान इसके योगदानकर्त्ता सदस्य हैं।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कितने सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक

(b) केवल दो

(c) सभी तीन

(d) कोई भी नहीं

69. निम्न पर विचार कीजिये:

1. राष्ट्रीय सौर मिशन
2. राष्ट्रीय जल मिशन
3. राष्ट्रीय जैव ऊर्जा मिशन
4. हरित भारत के लिये राष्ट्रीय मिशन
5. सतत् निवास पर राष्ट्रीय मिशन
6. सतत् कृषि पर राष्ट्रीय मिशन

उपर्युक्त में से कितने मिशन जलवायु परिवर्तन पर राष्ट्रीय कार्य योजना (NAPCC) के भाग हैं?

(a) केवल तीन

(b) केवल चार

(c) केवल पाँच

(d) सभी छह

70. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

कथन-I:

एकीकृत कृषि प्रणाली एक ही कृषि प्रणाली के भीतर विविध कृषि गतिविधियों को संयोजित करने की एक सतत् प्रथा है।

कथन-II:

यह एकीकरण संसाधन उपयोग को अनुकूलित करता है, पर्यावरणीय प्रभाव को कम करता है तथा किसानों की आजीविका के स्रोतों में विविधता लाकर उनकी आय और खाद्य सुरक्षा को बढ़ाता है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों के बारे में, निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा एक सही है?

(a) कथन-I और कथन-II दोनों सही हैं तथा कथन-II, कथन-I की सही व्याख्या है।

(b) कथन-I और कथन-II दोनों सही हैं तथा कथन-II, कथन-I की सही व्याख्या नहीं है।

(c) कथन-I सही है किंतु कथन-II गलत है।

(d) कथन-I गलत है किंतु कथन-II सही है।

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65. Consider the following pairs:

Landforms		*Topography*
1. Barchan	:	Karst
2. Stalactites	:	Aeolian
3. Moraines	:	Glaciers

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

(a) Only one *(b)* Only two
(c) All three *(d)* None

66. Consider the following:

1. Fishing navigation
2. Preventing ships from entering into harbour
3. Desilting of sediments
4. Generating electrical power

How many of the above are potential applications of tides?

(a) Only one *(b)* Only two
(c) Only three *(d)* All four

67. With reference to Rotterdam Convention consider the following statements:

1. It pertains to regulation of international trade in hazardous chemicals and pesticides.
2. It covers industrial chemicals that have been severely restricted for health or environmental reasons.
3. The convention does not create any legally binding obligations.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one *(b)* Only two
(c) All three *(d)* None

68. With reference to International Whaling Commission, consider the following statements:

1. It aims to provide for proper conservation of whale products and orderly development of whaling industry.
2. It is a voluntary coalition of member states, international agencies and non-governmental organizations.
3. India, Canada and Japan are its contributing members.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

69. Consider the following:

1. National Solar Mission
2. National Water Mission
3. National Bioenergy Mission
4. National Mission for a Green India
5. National Mission on Sustainable Habitat
6. National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture

How many of the above missions are part of National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC)?

(a) Only three
(b) Only four
(c) Only five
(d) All six

70. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I:
Integrated Farming System is a sustainable practice of combining diverse agricultural activities within a single farming system.

Statement-II:
This integration optimizes resource utilization, reduces environmental impact, and enhances farmers' income and food security by diversifying their sources of livelihood.

Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

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71. राष्ट्रीय बाँस मिशन के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. यह उत्पादकों से लेकर उपभोक्ताओं तक बाँस क्षेत्र की संपूर्ण मूल्य शृंखला के विकास पर केंद्रित है।
2. यह वनवासियों को वन क्षेत्रों में उगे बाँसों को काटने का अधिकार देता है।
3. यह उत्तर पूर्वी क्षेत्र विकास मंत्रालय के अधीन है।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक
(b) केवल दो
(c) सभी तीन
(d) कोई भी नहीं

72. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

कथन-I:
जलवायु परिवर्तन को कम करने के लिये वनरोपण के माध्यम से कार्बन पृथक्करण एक प्रभावी रणनीति है।

कथन-II:
वनीकरण कार्बन के अवशोषण और संग्रहण को बढ़ाता है, क्योंकि वृक्ष प्रकाश संश्लेषण के दौरान कार्बन डाइऑक्साइड को अवशोषित करते हैं।

उपर्युक्त कथनों के बारे में, निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा एक सही है?

(a) कथन-I और कथन-II दोनों सही हैं तथा कथन-II, कथन-I की सही व्याख्या है।
(b) कथन-I और कथन-II दोनों सही हैं तथा कथन-II, कथन-I की सही व्याख्या नहीं है।
(c) कथन-I सही है किंतु कथन-II गलत है।
(d) कथन-I गलत है किंतु कथन-II सही है।

73. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

कथन-I:
महाद्वीपों के पूर्वी तट पर अनेक गर्म रेगिस्तानों का निर्माण ठंडी महासागरीय धाराओं के प्रभाव से हुआ है।

कथन-II:
ठंडी महासागरीय धाराएँ वायु में आर्द्रता को बनाए रखना कठिन बना देती हैं, जिससे वाष्पीकरण दर कम हो जाती है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों के बारे में, निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा एक सही है?

(a) कथन-I और कथन-II दोनों सही हैं तथा कथन-II कथन-I की सही व्याख्या है।
(b) कथन-I और कथन-II दोनों सही हैं तथा कथन-II कथन-I की सही व्याख्या नहीं है।
(c) कथन-I सही है किंतु कथन-II गलत है।
(d) कथन-I गलत है किंतु कथन-II सही है।

74. 'गरजता चालीसा' और 'प्रचंड पचासा' पदों का प्रयोग अक्सर किन भौगोलिक घटनाओं के संदर्भ में किया जाता है?

(a) अटलांटिक महासागर में महासागरीय धाराएँ
(b) भारतीय उपमहाद्वीप में मानसूनी पवनें
(c) दक्षिणी गोलार्द्ध में पछुआ पवनें
(d) आर्कटिक बर्फ पिघलने के प्रतिरूप

75. निम्नलिखित युग्मों पर विचार कीजिये:

महाद्वीप		*उच्चतम शिखर*
1. अंटार्कटिका	:	माउंट किर्कपैट्रिक
2. यूरोप	:	माउंट ब्लांक
3. अफ्रीका	:	माउंट किलिमंजारो
4. ओशिनिया	:	माउंट विल्हेम

उपर्युक्त में से कितने युग्म सही सुमेलित हैं?

(a) केवल एक *(b)* केवल दो
(c) केवल तीन *(d)* सभी चार

76. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. पक्षाभी मेघ प्रायः अनियमित एवं हिमकणों से निर्मित होते हैं।
2. स्तरी कपासी मेघ स्वच्छ मौसम एवं साफ आसमान को संदर्भित करते हैं।
3. स्तरी मेघ सामान्य रूप से कम अथवा मध्यम ऊँचाई पर निर्मित होते हैं।
4. वर्षा स्तरी मेघ स्थिर वर्षा के साथ अपने संबंध के लिये जाने जाते हैं।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक *(b)* केवल दो
(c) केवल तीन *(d)* सभी चार

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71. With reference to the National Bamboo Mission, consider the following statements:

1. It focuses on the development of the complete value chain of bamboo sector from farm to fashion.
2. It entitles the forest dwellers the right to fell the bamboos grown on forest areas.
3. It is under the domain of Ministry of Development of Northeast Region.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

(a) Only one
(b) Only two
(c) All three
(d) None

72. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I:
Carbon sequestration through afforestation is an effective strategy to mitigate climate change.
Statement-II:
Afforestation increases carbon capture and storage, as trees absorb carbon dioxide during photosynthesis.
Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

73. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I:
Many hot deserts on the western coast of continents are formed due to influence of cold ocean currents.
Statement-II:
Cold ocean currents make it difficult for the air to hold moisture, reducing evaporation rates.
Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

74. The terms 'Roaring Forties' and 'Furious Fifties' are often used in the context of which geographical phenomena?

(a) Oceanic currents in the Atlantic Ocean
(b) Monsoonal winds in the Indian subcontinent
(c) Westerly winds in the Southern Hemisphere
(d) Arctic ice melting patterns

75. Consider the following pairs:

	Continent		*Highest peak*
1.	Antarctica	:	Mount Kirkpatrick
2.	Europe	:	Mount Blanc
3.	Africa	:	Mount Kilimanjaro
4.	Oceania	:	Mount Wilhelm

How many of the above pairs are correctly matched?

(a) Only one *(b)* Only two
(c) Only three *(d)* All four

76. Consider the following statements:

1. Cirrus clouds are often thin, wispy, and composed of ice crystals.
2. Cumulonimbus clouds are associated with fair weather and clear skies.
3. Stratus clouds typically form at low or middle altitudes.
4. Nimbostratus clouds are known for their association with steady rainfall.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one *(b)* Only two
(c) Only three *(d)* All four

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77. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. जल में लवणता उसे सघन बनाती है।
2. अलवणीय जल के पारिस्थितिक तंत्र की तुलना में लवणीय जल के पारिस्थितिक तंत्र में सुपोषण अधिक आम है।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1 *(b)* केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों *(d)* न तो 1 और न ही 2

78. पद "टिग्रे", जो अक्सर जन समाचारों में रहता है, निम्नलिखित में से किस क्षेत्र से संबंधित है?

(a) उत्तरी नाइज़ीरिया
(b) पूर्वी सूडान
(c) उत्तरी इथियोपिया
(d) दक्षिणी सोमालिया

79. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. समदाब रेखाएँ दक्षिणी गोलार्द्ध की तुलना में उत्तरी गोलार्द्ध में अक्षांशों के अपेक्षाकृत अधिक समानांतर हैं।
2. वायुमंडलीय दाब आमतौर पर ऊँचाई बढ़ने के साथ बढ़ता है।
3. वायुमंडलीय दाब को बैरोमीटर के माध्यम से मापा जाता है।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक *(b)* केवल दो
(c) सभी तीन *(d)* कोई भी नहीं

80. पाम तेल के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. ताड़ (पाम) का वृक्ष केवल उष्णकटिबंधीय क्षेत्रों में ही उगाया जाता है।
2. अन्य वनस्पति तेलों की तुलना में इससे उपज कम होती है।
3. यह अपमार्जकों और आइसक्रीम में पाया जाता है।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-से कथन सही है?

(a) केवल 1 और 2
(b) केवल 2 और 3
(c) केवल 1 और 3
(d) 1, 2 और 3

81. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. गहन पारिस्थितिकी पर्यावरणीय स्थिरता को बढ़ावा देने के लिये मानवीय मूल्यों और जीवनशैली में मूलभूत परिवर्तन की परिकल्पना करता है।
2. उथली पारिस्थितिकी पृथ्वी पर समग्र जीवन के व्यापक पारिस्थितिक अंतर्संबंध की पूरी तरह से अवहेलना करती है।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1 *(b)* केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों *(d)* न तो 1 और न ही 2

82. निम्नलिखित पर विचार कीजिये:

1. स्थिर
2. जटिल खाद्य शृंखला
3. बड़ी संख्या में खरपतवार
4. कम प्रजातीय विविधता
5. अत्यधिक सरलीकृत

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सी विशेषताएँ मानव संशोधित पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र की हैं?

(a) केवल दो *(b)* केवल तीन
(c) केवल चार *(d)* सभी पाँच

83. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

कथन-I:
सल्फर चक्र मुख्य रूप से भूवैज्ञानिक प्रक्रियाओं द्वारा और नगण्य रूप से जैविक प्रक्रियाओं द्वारा संचालित होता है।
कथन-II:
ज्वालामुखी प्रस्फुटन से वायुमंडल में बड़ी मात्रा में सल्फर डाइऑक्साइड उत्सर्जित होती है, जो सल्फर चक्र के लिये सल्फर का एक महत्त्वपूर्ण स्रोत बन जाता है।
उपर्युक्त कथनों के बारे में, निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा एक सही है?

(a) कथन-I और कथन-II दोनों सही हैं और कथन-II, कथन-I की सही व्याख्या है।
(b) कथन-I और कथन-II दोनों सही हैं और कथन-II, कथन-I की सही व्याख्या नहीं है।
(c) कथन-I सही है किंतु कथन-II गलत है।
(d) कथन-I गलत है किंतु कथन-II सही है।

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77. Consider the following:

1. The presence of salt in water makes it denser.
2. Eutrophication is more common in saltwater ecosystems than in freshwater ecosystems.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only *(b)* 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 *(d)* Neither 1 nor 2

78. The term "Tigray," often heard in the news, corresponds to which of the following regions?

(a) Northern Nigeria
(b) Eastern Sudan
(c) Northern Ethiopia
(d) Southern Somalia

79. Consider the following statements:

1. Isobars are relatively more parallel to latitudes in the Northern hemisphere than the southern hemisphere.
2. Atmospheric pressure generally increases with increase in altitude.
3. Atmospheric pressure is measured through Barometer.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

(a) Only one *(b)* Only two
(c) All three *(d)* None

80. With reference to Palm oil, consider the following statements:

1. The oil palm tree is grown only in the tropics.
2. It has lower yield than other vegetable oils.
3. It is found in detergents and ice cream.

Which of the above statements are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

81. Consider the following statements:

1. Deep ecology advocates for a fundamental shift in human values and lifestyles to promote environmental sustainability.
2. Shallow ecology completely disregards the broader ecological interconnectedness of all life on Earth.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only *(b)* 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 *(d)* Neither 1 nor 2

82. Consider the following:

1. Stable
2. Complex food chain
3. Large number of weeds
4. Low species diversity
5. Highly simplified

Which of the above are the characteristics of Human modified ecosystem?

(a) Only two *(b)* Only three
(c) Only four *(d)* All five

83. Consider the following statements:

Statement-I:
The sulphur cycle is driven primarily by the geological processes and negligibly by the biological processes.
Statement-II:
Volcanic eruptions release large quantities of sulphur dioxide into the atmosphere, which becomes a significant source of sulphur for the sulphur cycle.
Which one of the following is correct in respect of the above statements?

(a) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(b) Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is not the correct explanation for Statement-I.
(c) Statement-I is correct but Statement-II is incorrect.
(d) Statement-I is incorrect but Statement-II is correct.

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84. अंतर्राष्ट्रीय तिथि रेखा निम्नलिखित में से किस क्षेत्र से विपथगामी होती है?

(a) पनामा नहर और गैलापागोस द्वीप समूह

(b) स्वेज़ नहर और लाल सागर

(c) बेरिंग जलडमरूमध्य और एल्यूशियन द्वीप समूह

(d) मेक्सिको की खाड़ी और बरमूडा त्रिकोण

85. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. पृथ्वी की सतह का प्रकाशानुपात (एल्बिडो) इंगित करता है कि कितनी सौर ऊर्जा वापस अंतरिक्ष में परावर्तित होती है।
2. उच्च प्रकाशानुपात वाली सतहें अधिक सौर ऊर्जा को अवशोषित करती हैं और ग्रह को गर्म करने में योगदान करती हैं।
3. बंजर भूमि की तुलना में महासागर का प्रकाशानुपात कम होता है।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक

(b) केवल दो

(c) सभी तीन

(d) कोई भी नहीं

86. यह दक्षिण एशिया का पहला समुद्री जीवमंडल आरक्षित क्षेत्र है और जैव विविधता के मामले में पृथ्वी पर सबसे समृद्ध क्षेत्रों में से एक है। इसमें 21 द्वीप शामिल हैं जिनमें ज्वारनदमुख, समुद्र पुलिन और पंक तट शामिल हैं जो इस क्षेत्र को आश्चर्यजनक रूप से सुंदर बनाते हैं। यहाँ समुद्री गाय, मैंग्रोव, समुद्री कर्कटी और डुगोंग जैसी प्रजातियाँ पाई जा सकती हैं। यह कौन-सा राष्ट्रीय उद्यान है?

(a) मन्नार की खाड़ी राष्ट्रीय उद्यान

(b) गहिरमाथा समुद्री अभयारण्य

(c) मालवन समुद्री वन्यजीव अभयारण्य

(d) महात्मा गांधी समुद्री राष्ट्रीय उद्यान

87. आपदा जोखिम न्यूनीकरण के लिये सेंदाई फ्रेमवर्क के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. यह आपदा जोखिम न्यूनीकरण और आघात सहनीयता के लिये एक वैश्विक फ्रेमवर्क है, जिसे संयुक्त राष्ट्र महासभा द्वारा अपनाया गया है।
2. यह मुख्य रूप से आपदा के बाद के आकलन पर केंद्रित है।
3. यह आपदा के सामाजिक, आर्थिक और पर्यावरणीय आयामों को ध्यान में रखता है।
4. इसमें प्राकृतिक खतरों के अलावा तकनीकी खतरे भी शामिल हैं।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही है?

(a) केवल एक

(b) केवल दो

(c) केवल तीन

(d) सभी चार

88. मैंग्रोव के संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. अवसाद में परिवर्तन के कारण मैंग्रोव को दोबारा लगाना मुश्किल होता है।
2. ये विभिन्न प्रकार के तापमानों का सामना कर सकते हैं।
3. सर्वाधिक मैंग्रोव भारत में पाए जाते हैं।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही है?

(a) केवल एक

(b) केवल दो

(c) सभी तीन

(d) कोई भी नहीं

89. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. पृथ्वी को प्राप्त सूर्यातप दीर्घ तरंग विकिरण में प्राप्त होती है।
2. सर्वाधिक सूर्यातप भूमध्य रेखा पर प्राप्त होता है।
3. यदि पृथ्वी समतल होती, तो सूर्य के सामने की सतह पर आने वाली सौर विकिरण की समान मात्रा प्राप्त होती।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1 और 2

(b) केवल 3

(c) केवल 1 और 3

(d) 1, 2 और 3

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84. The International Date Line deviates from which of the following regions?

(a) Panama Canal and Galapagos Islands

(b) Suez Canal and Red Sea

(c) Bering Strait and Aleutian Islands

(d) Gulf of Mexico and Bermuda Triangle

85. Consider the following statements:

1. Albedo of Earth's surface indicates how much solar energy is reflected back to space.
2. Surfaces with high albedo absorb more solar energy and contribute to warming the planet.
3. Ocean has a lower albedo in comparison to barren land.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

(a) Only one

(b) Only two

(c) All three

(d) None

86. It is the first marine biosphere reserve in South Asia and one of the richest regions on Earth in terms of biodiversity. It comprises 21 islands which includes estuaries, beaches and mudflats that make this region amazingly beautiful. One can find species like sea cow, mangrove, sea cucumber and dugongs. Which national park is it?

(a) Gulf of Mannar National Park

(b) Gahirmatha Marine Sanctuary

(c) Malvan Marine Wildlife Sanctuary

(d) Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park

87. With reference to Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, consider the following statements:

1. It is a global blueprint for disaster risk reduction and resilience, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly.
2. It primarily focuses on post-disaster assessment.
3. It takes into account the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of the disaster.
4. It covers technological hazards, in addition to natural hazards.

How many of the statements given above are correct?

(a) Only one

(b) Only two

(c) Only three

(d) All four

88. With reference to mangroves, consider the following statement:

1. It is difficult to replant mangroves due to the shift in sediments.
2. They can withstand wide range of temperatures.
3. India has the largest amount of mangrove coverage.

How many of the statements give above are correct?

(a) Only one

(b) Only two

(c) All three

(d) None

89. Consider the following statements:

1. The insolation received by the Earth is in long wave radiation.
2. Maximum insolation is received over the equator.
3. If the Earth was flat, then the surface facing the sun would receive the same amount of incoming solar radiation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only

(b) 3 only

(c) 1 and 3 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

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90. निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. जलडमरूमध्य भूमि का एक संकीर्ण भाग है जो दो बड़े जल निकायों को जोड़ता है।
2. जिब्राल्टर जलडमरूमध्य विवर्तनिक गतिविधि द्वारा निर्मित जलडमरूमध्य है।
3. स्थलडमरूमध्य, जल का एक संकीर्ण भाग है, जो दो जल के निकायों को जोड़ता है।

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-सा/से कथन सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1
(b) केवल 2
(c) 1 और 3
(d) 2 और 3

91. शीतोष्ण कटिबंधीय चक्रवातों के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित कथनों पर विचार कीजिये:

1. ये दोनों गोलार्द्धों में 35° से 65° अक्षांश के बीच मध्य अक्षांशीय क्षेत्र के ऊपर सक्रिय होते हैं।
2. गति की दिशा पूर्व से पश्चिम की ओर होती है।
3. शीत ऋतु में ये अधिक प्रभावी होते हैं।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-से सही हैं?

(a) केवल 1 और 2
(b) केवल 2 और 3
(c) केवल 1 और 3
(d) 1, 2 और 3

92. निम्नलिखित पर विचार कीजिये:

1. काकरापार परमाणु ऊर्जा संयंत्र दाबयुक्त भारी जल रिएक्टर का सबसे बड़ा स्वदेशी रूप से विकसित संस्करण है।
2. दबावयुक्त भारी जल रिएक्टर में ईंधन के रूप में प्राकृतिक यूरेनियम तथा मंदक के रूप में भारी जल का उपयोग किया जाता है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1
(b) केवल 2
(c) 1 और 2 दोनों
(d) न तो 1 और न ही 2

93. निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा नीलगिरी जैवमंडल आरक्षित क्षेत्र का हिस्सा हैं?

(a) मुदुमलाई वन्यजीव अभयारण्य, वायनाड वन्यजीव अभयारण्य, बांदीपुर राष्ट्रीय उद्यान, मुकुर्थी राष्ट्रीय उद्यान।
(b) कौडिन्य, पापिकोंडा वन्यजीव अभयारण्य, श्री वेंकटेश्वर वन्यजीव अभयारण्य, शेंदुर्नी वन्यजीव अभयारण्य।
(c) नेय्यर, पेप्पारा, कलक्काड़ मुंडनतुरई बाघ आरक्षित क्षेत्र, साइलेंट वैली नेशनल पार्क।
(d) वायनाड वन्यजीव अभयारण्य, समुद्री राष्ट्रीय उद्यान, नागार्जुनसागर-श्रीशैलम बाघ आरक्षित क्षेत्र।

94. निम्नलिखित पर विचार कीजिये:

1. सिएरा नेवादा
2. कैस्केड माद्रे पर्वतमाला
3. अप्लेशियन पर्वतमाला
4. कैरेबियन सागर

उपर्युक्त में से कितने उत्तरी अमेरिका के पश्चिमी तट पर स्थित हैं?

(a) केवल 1 और 2 *(b)* केवल 2, 3 और 4
(c) केवल 1, 3 और 4 *(d)* 1, 2, 3 और 4

95. निम्न पर विचार कीजिये:

1. पक्के बाघ आरक्षित क्षेत्र
2. कमलांग बाघ आरक्षित क्षेत्र
3. बुक्सा बाघ आरक्षित क्षेत्र
4. डम्पा बाघ आरक्षित क्षेत्र

निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा बाघ आरक्षित क्षेत्र पूर्वी भारत में स्थित है?

(a) केवल 1 और 2 *(b)* केवल 2, 3 और 4
(c) केवल 1, 3 और 4 *(d)* 1, 2, 3 और 4

96. निम्न पर विचार कीजिये:

1. सिएरा लियोन
2. लाइबेरिया
3. नाइज़ीरिया
4. टोगो
5. बेनिन

उपर्युक्त में से कौन-से देश अफ्रीका के स्लेव कोस्ट पर स्थित हैं?

(a) केवल 1, 2 और 5 *(b)* केवल 1, 2, 3 और 4
(c) केवल 3, 4 और 5 *(d)* 1, 2, 3, 4 और 5

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90. Consider the following statements:

1. A strait is a narrow body of land that connects two larger bodies of water.
2. One strait that was formed by tectonic activity is the Strait of Gibraltar.
3. An isthmus, a narrow body of water that connects two bodies of water.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3
(d) 2 and 3

91. Consider the following statements in respect of temperate cyclones:

1. These are active above the mid-latitudinal region between 35° and 65° latitude in both the hemispheres.
2. The direction of movement is from east to west.
3. They are more pronounced in the winter seasons.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

92. Consider the following:

1. Kakrapar Nuclear Power Plant is the biggest indigenously developed variant of the Pressurized Heavy Water Reactor.
2. Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors use natural uranium as fuel and heavy water as moderator.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

93. Which of the following are a part of Nilgiri biosphere reserve?

(a) Mudumalai wildlife sanctuary, Wayanad wildlife Sanctuary, Bandipur National Park, Mukurthi National Park.
(b) Kaudinya, Papikonda wildlife sanctuary, Sri Venkateshwara wildlife sanctuary, Shendurney wildlife sanctuary.
(c) Neyyar, Peppara, Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger reserve, Silent valley national park.
(d) Wayanad wildlife sanctuary, marine national park, NagarjunaSagar-Srisailam Tiger reserve.

94. Consider the following:

1. Sierra Nevada
2. Cascade Madre Mountains
3. Appalachian Mountains
4. Caribbean

Which of the above are located on the western coast of North America?

(a) 1 and 2 only *(b)* 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only *(d)* 1, 2, 3 and 4

95. Consider the following:

1. Pakke Tiger reserve
2. Kamlang Tiger reserve
3. Buxa Tiger reserve
4. Dampa tiger reserve

Which of the following tiger reserves are situated in eastern India?

(a) 1 and 2 only *(b)* 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only *(d)* 1, 2, 3 and 4

96. Consider the following:

1. Sierra Leone
2. Liberia
3. Nigeria
4. Togo
5. Benin

Which of the following countries are situated on the slave coast of Africa?

(a) 1, 2 and 5 only *(b)* 1, 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 3, 4 and 5 only *(d)* 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

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97. "रेजॉल्युशन 2593" निम्नलिखित में से किससे संबंधित है?

(a) अफगानिस्तान की स्थिति पर संकल्प

(b) अंतर्राष्ट्रीय शांति और सुरक्षा बनाए रखना

(c) बहुपक्षीय स्तर पर बेहतर व्यापार एवं वाणिज्य का संकल्प

(d) महिलाएँ एवं शांति तथा सुरक्षा

98. निम्नलिखित में से कौन-सा एक पक्षी ***नहीं*** है?

(a) इंडियन पीफॉल

(b) अलेक्ज़ेंड्रिन पैराकीट

(c) तिलापिया

(d) कार्डिनल

99. मोनोक्लोनल एंटीबॉडी के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित पर विचार कीजिये:

1. ये प्रयोगशाला में निर्मित प्रोटीन हैं।
2. ये एक ही मूल कोशिका से प्राप्त सजातीय संकर कोशिकाओं द्वारा निर्मित होते हैं।
3. ये सिर्फ एक एंटीबॉडी के प्रतिरूप हैं और वे केवल एक एंटीजन से बँधते हैं।

उपर्युक्त में से कितने कथन सही हैं?

(a) केवल एक

(b) केवल दो

(c) सभी तीन

(d) कोई भी नहीं

100. निम्न पर विचार कीजिये:

1. ब्लू मून एक माह की पहली पूर्णिमा को संदर्भित करता है।
2. सुपर मून तब होता है जब चंद्रमा अपनी उपभू रेखा से गुजर रहा होता है या उसके करीब होता है और यह पूर्णिमा भी होती है।

उपर्युक्त कथनों में से कौन-सा/से सही है/हैं?

(a) केवल 1

(b) केवल 2

(c) 1 और 2 दोनों

(d) न तो 1 और न ही 2

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97. "Resolution 2593" is associated with which one among the following?

(a) Resolution on the situation in Afghanistan.

(b) Maintenance of international peace and security.

(c) Resolution for better trade and commerce at multilateral level.

(d) Women, peace and security.

98. Which of the following is ***not*** a bird?

(a) Indian Peafowl

(b) Alexandrine Parakeet

(c) Tilapia

(d) Cardinal

99. Consider the following with reference to monoclonal antibodies:

1. They are laboratory-made proteins.
2. They are made by homogeneous hybrid cells derived from the same parent cell.
3. They are clones of just one antibody, and they bind to one antigen only.

How many of the above statements are correct?

(a) Only one

(b) Only two

(c) All three

(d) None

100. Consider the following:

1. Blue moon refers to the first full moon in a month.
2. Super moon happens when the moon is passing through or is close to its perigee and is also a full moon.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 only

(c) Both 1 and 2

(d) Neither 1 nor 2

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1. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE EXAMINATION, YOU SHOULD CHECK THAT THIS TEST BOOKLET *DOES NOT* HAVE ANY UNPRINTED OR TORN OR MISSING PAGES OR ITEMS, ETC. IF SO, GET IT REPLACED BY A COMPLETE TEST BOOKLET.
2. ENCODE CLEARLY THE TEST BOOKLET SERIES CODE **A, B, C** OR **D** AS THE CASE MAY BE IN THE APPROPRIATE PLACE IN THE ANSWER SHEET.
3. You have to enter your Roll Number on the Test Booklet in the Box provided alongside this line. *DO NOT* write *anything else* on the Test Booklet.
4. This Test Booklet contains 100 items (questions). Each question is printed both in **Hindi** and **English**. Each item comprises four responses (answers). You will select the response which you want to mark on the Answer Sheet. In case you feel that there is more than one correct response, mark the response which you consider the best. In any case, choose ONLY ONE response for each item.
5. You have to mark all your responses ONLY on the separate Answer Sheet provided. See directions in the Answer sheet.
6. All items carry equal marks.
7. Before you proceed to mark in the Answer Sheet the response to various items in the Test Booklet, you have to fill in some particulars in the Answer Sheet as per instructions sent to you with your admission certificate.
8. After you have completed filling in all your responses on the Answer Sheet and examination has concluded, you should hand over to the Invigilator *only the Answer Sheet*. You are permitted to take away with you the Test Booklet.
9. Sheets for rough work are appended in the Test Booklet at the end.
10. **Penalty for wrong answers:**
    THERE WILL BE PENALTY FOR WRONG ANSWERS MARKED BY A CANDIDATE IN THE OBJECTIVE TYPE QUESTION PAPERS.
    (i) There are four alternatives for the answer to every question. For each question for which a wrong answer has been given by the candidate, **One-Third** of the marks assigned to that question will be deducted as penalty.
    (ii) If a candidate gives more than one answer, it will be treated as a **wrong answer** even if one of the given answers happens to be correct and there will be same penalty as above to that question.
    (iii) If a question is left blank, i.e., no answer is given by the candidate, there will be no **penalty** for that question.

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Note: Hindi version of the instructions is printed on the front cover of this Booklet.

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CIVIL SERVICES (PRELIMINARY) TEST SERIES – 2024

TEST BOOKLET SERIES

Test Code: P1/P2/P3-2410

(English Version)

ANSWER & EXPLANATION
GENERAL STUDIES
TEST – 10

B

ANSWERS

Q. No.	Answers	Q. No.	Answers	Q. No.	Answers	Q. No.	Answers
1	(a)	26	(a)	51	(c)	76	(c)
2	(a)	27	(a)	52	(a)	77	(a)
3	(c)	28	(a)	53	(a)	78	(c)
4	(b)	29	(c)	54	(b)	79	(a)
5	(c)	30	(a)	55	(d)	80	(c)
6	(b)	31	(b)	56	(b)	81	(a)
7	(d)	32	(b)	57	(b)	82	(b)
8	(a)	33	(a)	58	(c)	83	(d)
9	(c)	34	(d)	59	(a)	84	(c)
10	(d)	35	(c)	60	(c)	85	(b)
11	(b)	36	(d)	61	(c)	86	(a)
12	(a)	37	(b)	62	(c)	87	(d)
13	(a)	38	(c)	63	(b)	88	(a)
14	(b)	39	(b)	64	(d)	89	(b)
15	(b)	40	(b)	65	(a)	90	(b)
16	(d)	41	(b)	66	(d)	91	(c)
17	(c)	42	(d)	67	(b)	92	(c)
18	(a)	43	(a)	68	(a)	93	(a)
19	(b)	44	(d)	69	(c)	94	(a)
20	(a)	45	(b)	70	(a)	95	(d)
21	(d)	46	(c)	71	(a)	96	(c)
22	(b)	47	(b)	72	(a)	97	(a)
23	(c)	48	(a)	73	(a)	98	(c)
24	(a)	49	(a)	74	(c)	99	(c)
25	(b)	50	(c)	75	(a)	100	(b)

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1. (a)

Explanation:

- In India, the wetlands are regulated under the **Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules, 2017.**
- The 2010 version of the Rules provided for a Central Wetland Regulatory Authority, but new Rules of 2017 replaced it with state-level bodies and created a National Wetland Committee, which functions in an advisory role. **Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- The wetlands shall be conserved and managed in accordance with the principle of 'wise use' as determined by the Wetlands Authority. The **Wetlands (Conservation and Management) Rules 2017** do **not provide an exhaustive list** of "wise use principles." **Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- These principles are generally understood as a set of guidelines for sustainable management of wetlands but are not explicitly listed in the rules.

2. (a)

Explanation:

- The **Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), statutory organisation**, was constituted in September, 1974 under the **Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.**
- Further, CPCB was entrusted with the powers and functions under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, **1981. Hence, statement (1) is NOT correct.**
- **Functions of the CPCB** at the National Level :
  - Advise the Central Government on any matter concerning prevention and control of water and air pollution and improvement of the quality of air.
  - Plan and cause to be executed a nation-wide program for the prevention, control or abatement of water and air pollution;
  - **Co-ordinate the activities** of the **State Board** and **resolve disputes** among them. **Hence, statement (2) is correct.**
  - Provide **technical assistance** and guidance to the State Boards, carry out and sponsor investigation and research relating to problems of water and air pollution, and for their prevention, control or abatement.
- Further, **The CPCB's chairman is appointed by the Appointments Committee** of the **Cabinet** of the Government of India. The **Union minister of Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate** Change is **not** the Chairperson. **Hence, statement (3) is NOT correct.**

3. (c)

Explanation:

- A pilot **project RE-HAB** (Reducing Elephant-Human Attacks using Bees) has been launched in **Karnataka** which entails installing bee boxes along the periphery of the forest and the villages to **mitigate human-elephant conflict. Hence, statement (2) is correct.**
- These spots are located on the periphery of **Nagarahole National Park** and Tiger Reserve, which is a known conflict zone.
- It is intended to create **"bee fences"** to thwart elephant attacks in human habitations using honeybees.
- The bee boxes will dissuade elephants without causing any harm to them.
- **Extremely cost-effective** as compared to various other measures such as digging trenches or erecting fences. The initiative will increase honey production and farmers' income.
- Project is an initiative of the **Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC).** It is a sub-mission of KVIC's **National Honey Mission. Hence, statement (1) is correct.**

4. (b)

Explanation:

- The **Compensatory Afforestation Fund (CAF) Act** was passed by the centre in 2016 and the related rules were notified in 2018.
- The CAF Act was enacted to manage the funds collected for compensatory afforestation which till then was managed by Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority **(CAMPA).**
- Compensatory afforestation means that every time forest land is diverted for non-forest purposes such as mining or industry, the user agency pays for planting forests over an equal area of non-forest land, or when such land is not available, twice the area of degraded forest land.
- As per the rules, **90% of the CAF money is to be given to the states while 10% is to be retained by the Centre. Hence, statement (1) is NOT correct.**

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- The funds can be used for **treatment of catchment areas,** assisted natural generation, forest management, wildlife protection and management**, relocation of villages from protected areas,** managing human-wildlife conflicts, training and awareness generation, **supply of wood saving devices** and allied activities. **Hence, statement (2) is correct.**

5. (c)

Explanation:

- In October 2000, the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC), in its Resolution 2000/35 established the **United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF),** a subsidiary body. **Hence, statement (2) is correct.**
- Its main objective is to promote **"The management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests and to strengthen long-term political commitment to this end…"** based on the Rio Declaration, the Forest Principles, Agenda 21 and other key milestones of international forest policy. **Hence, statement (3) is correct.**
- The Forum has **universal membership** and is composed of all Member States of the United Nations and specialized agencies. **Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- The Economic and Social Council is at the heart of the **United Nations system** to advance the three dimensions of sustainable development – **economic, social and environmental.** It is the central platform for fostering debate and innovative thinking, forging consensus on ways forward, and coordinating efforts to achieve internationally agreed goals. It is also responsible for the follow-up to major UN conferences and summits.
- The UN Charter established **ECOSOC in 1945** as one of the six main organs of the United Nations

6. (b)

Explanation:

- **Seaweeds are non-vascular marine algae** and do not produce flowers or seeds. They reproduce through spores or fragmentation**. Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- **Seagrasses are indeed vascular plants** that have a structure similar to terrestrial plants, including true stems, roots, and leaves. They are adapted to live in underwater environments. **Hence, statement (2) is correct.**
- Seagrasses typically reproduce through sexual or asexual reproduction by producing flowers and seeds, not spores. They are angiosperms, which means they are flowering plants. **Hence, statement (3) is NOT correct.**
- While seaweeds play a vital role in marine ecosystems by producing oxygen through photosynthesis, they are not commonly referred to as the "lungs of the sea."
- **Seagrasses have been called "the lungs of the sea"** because they release oxygen into the water through the process of photosynthesis. **Hence, statement (4) is NOT correct.**
- Moreover, Seagrasses are considered **'Ecosystem Engineers'** as they are known for providing many ecosystems services.

7. (d)

Explanation:

- **Lions, tigers, leopards, and jaguars** are the big cats that can roar. These big cats are often referred to as **"roaring cats"** due to their ability to produce deep, powerful roars, which is a unique feature among felids.
- Cheetahs, pumas, and snow leopards, on the other hand, are sometimes classified as "small cats" or **"purring cats."**
- These species are not capable of roaring like the big cats mentioned in the correct answer. Instead, they produce a variety of other vocalizations, but their vocalizations are not true roars.

What causes the roar?

- In these species, the epihyal bone, part of the voice box, is replaced by a ligament. This can be stretched, creating a larger sound-producing passage and thus a wider range of pitch. The more the ligament extends, the lower the sound generated when air passes across the vocal cords. In addition, the cords are large, unbroken and fleshy, which produces deeper sounds.

Hence, option (d) is correct.

8. (a)

Explanation:

- **Polar bears are indeed primarily found in the Arctic region. Polar bears are strong swimmers and diverse which enables them to swim from one iceberg to another and to hunt seals in sea.**

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- They are specially adapted to the harsh conditions of the Arctic and are not typically found in other regions.
- Polar bears are **thought to have evolved as a distinct species** in response to the changing environmental conditions in the Arctic. During their evolution, the **North and South poles were not connected by ice or land,** so polar bears are adapted to the Arctic's unique ecological niche. Their **IUCN status is Vulnerable.**

Hence, both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.

9. (c)

Explanation:

- **Coastal Regulation Zones** include coastal stretches of seas, bays, estuaries, creeks, rivers, and backwaters were declared as CRZs under coastal zone regulation **notification in 1991.** CRZ Notification 2018 is based on the recommendations of **Shailesh Nayak committee. Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- The National Coastal Zone Management Authority **(NCZMA) is an ad-hoc body** that was created by the **Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.** The NCZMA's main focus is on protecting the coastal environment. **Hence, statement (2) is correct.**
- The NCZMA was created to monitor and implement the provisions of the CRZ Notification. The CRZ Notification was issued in 1991 by the Government of India under the **Environment Protection Act, 1986.**
- The CRZ Notification aims to protect and conserve the environment and ecosystem on the coastline of the country.

10. (d)

Explanation:

- **Global commons** have been traditionally defined as those parts of the planet that **fall outside national jurisdictions** and to which **all nations have access.**
- They do not belong to one community or individual, but to humanity. International law identifies four global commons, namely:
  - The high Seas
  - The atmosphere
  - Antarctica
  - The Outer Space. **Hence, option (d) is correct.**
- Resources of interest or value to the welfare of the community of nations – such as tropical rain forests and biodiversity - have lately been included among the traditional set of global commons as well.
- **Creative destruction** refers to the incessant product and process innovation mechanism by which new production units replace outdated ones.
- The spread of zoonotic diseases like Covid-19, **Greenhouse Gas emission, Biodiversity reduction, overfishing; and the accumulation of plastic waste** are some of the problems within the scope of global commons.

11. (b)

Explanation:

- Parliament has passed **106th Constitutional Amendment) Act, 2023,** to provide for **one-third reservation to women** in the **Lok Sabha, State Assemblies** and the **assembly of NCT of Delhi.** The Act does not contain any provision for reservation for women in Rajya Sabha and Legislative Councils of the States. **Hence, statement (1) is NOT correct.**
- It inserted **Article 330A:** Reservation of one-third seats for women in the House of People (Lok Sabha). It also includes reservation of one-third seats for women under total number of seats reserved for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes under Article 330. **Hence, statement (2) is correct.**
- It added **Article 334A:** Provisions of this act shall come into effect after delimitation post the first census taken after the commencement of this act.
- It is bound with **Sunset clause:** Provisions relating to reservation of seats for women shall cease to have effect after the expiration of **15 years.**
- The reservation for women, however, can be extended by the Parliament by law. **Hence, statement (4) is NOT correct.**
- **Periodic rotation of seats** reserved for women after each subsequent delimitation as Parliament may by law determine.
- The provisions of this act shall not affect any representation in legislative assemblies and the Lok Sabha until their dissolution. **Hence, statement (3) is correct.**

12. (a)

Explanation:

- Simultaneous elections can **reduce** the overall **cost of conducting elections** since they consolidate multiple elections into one, thereby saving resources.

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- This consolidation can also enhance administrative efficiency as the Election Commission can **better plan** and manage logistics, security, and other aspects of the electoral process.
- It also **streamlines** the **allocation of resources,** ensuring better **management of logistics,** security, and other operational aspects, making the electoral process more cost-effective and efficient. **Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- First General Elections to the House of People (Lok Sabha) and all State Legislative Assemblies were held simultaneously in 1951-52.
- That practice continued in **three subsequent General Elections held in the years 1957, 1962 and 1967.** However, due to the premature dissolution of some Legislative Assemblies in 1968 and 1969, the cycle got disrupted. **Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- Simultaneous elections may not necessarily enhance the representation of regional and local issues. In fact, it could **risk overshadowing local concerns with national issues,** leading to less attention to regional and local issues. **Hence, statement (3) is NOT correct.**

13. (a)

Explanation:

- **Global Biofuel Alliance** (GBA) was recently launched by world leaders to **expedite the global uptake of biofuels,** under India's G20 presidency. The alliance brings together major biofuel producers and consumers, such as the US, Brazil, and India.
- It is a platform for fostering **global collaboration** for the advancement and widespread adoption of biofuels. The alliance intends to act as a **central repository** of knowledge and an expert hub.
- It aims to ensure a **stable supply of eco-fuels** and create a **virtual marketplace** connecting industries, countries, and tech providers, enhancing demand-supply mapping. **Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- It was launched by **India** along with the leaders of **Singapore, Bangladesh, Italy, USA, Brazil, Argentina, Mauritius and UAE.**
- Its **participants** are **not limited to G20 countries only**. Several non G20 countries such as Iceland, Kenya, Guyana, Paraguay, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, Uganda, and Finland is part of this alliance.
- **International organizations** like World Bank, Asian Development Bank, World Economic Forum, International Energy Agency, etc are also part of it. **Hence, statement (3) is NOT correct.**
- There is a **lack of consensus** on what sustainable fuels are and countries don't think biofuels are sustainable.
- There are concerns that developing countries may encounter resistance from developed nations due to concerns about technological secrecy. There is **no agreement on technology transfer. Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**

14. (b)

Explanation:

- The **Persian Gulf** is a critical body of water in **Western Asia,** situated between the **Arabian Peninsula** and **Iran.** It connects to the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean to the south.
- It is a region of immense **strategic importance** due to its vast reserves of **oil** and **natural gas,** making it a focal point for global energy supplies.
- Several countries, including **Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, and Oman,** have coastlines along the Persian Gulf, and they play a central role in the geopolitics of the region.
- It has been a **hub** for **commerce, trade,** and **maritime** activities for centuries.
- **Doha** is a city in **Qatar, Manama** is a city in **Bahrain, Bandar Abbas** is a city in **Iran.** All these cities border Persian Gulf. **Mitsiwa** is a city in **Eretria,** it borders Red Sea and not the Persian Gulf. **Hence, option (b) is correct.**

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15. (b)

Explanation:

- India's engagement with ASEAN is a fundamental component of its broader commitment to **regional integration** and **multilateralism.** India has consistently sought to strengthen its ties with ASEAN countries, recognizing the importance of regional cooperation.
- ASEAN plays a crucial role in India's efforts to enhance its presence in the dynamic and strategically important **Indo-Pacific region. Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- **ASEAN** indeed occupies a **central position** in India's **Act East Policy** and **Indo-Pacific Vision** and contributes to the Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR) initiative.
- These policy frameworks emphasize India's desire to strengthen its ties with countries in the Indo-Pacific region and enhance its economic and strategic engagement.
- ASEAN, with its regional significance and economic dynamism, serves as a key partner and gateway to the Far East for India.
- It provides a platform for India to deepen its **engagement with East** and **Southeast Asian nations,** fostering **economic, political, and strategic cooperation. Hence, statement (2) is correct.**
- Recently, On the conclusion of **20th ASEAN-India Summit,** India emphasized the need to complete the review of the ASEAN- India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) in a time-bound manner.
- **AITIGA review** is expected to make AITIGA more user-friendly, simple, and trade facilitative for businesses as well as support for sustainable and inclusive growth. **Hence, statement (3) is NOT correct.**

16. (d)

Explanation:

- The Abraham Accords are a series of historic agreements between **Israel** and several Arab nations, including the **United Arab Emirates** (UAE), **Bahrain, Sudan,** and **Morocco. Hence, option (d) is correct.**
- These accords mark a significant shift in Middle Eastern geopolitics and diplomacy, particularly in the context of the Arab Israeli conflict.
- The main **objectives** of the Abraham Accords are to **normalize diplomatic, economic, and cultural relations between Israel and the participating Arab nations.**
- As per the agreement, the Israel and Arab nations are expected to establish embassies, exchange ambassadors, cooperate and work together across a range of sectors, including tourism, trade, healthcare and security.
- These agreements have been **brokered** and supported by the **United States.**
- The Abraham Accords are seen as a step toward greater regional stability and cooperation in the Middle East.
- The agreement marks the first normalisation of ties between Israel and an Arab country since Jordan in 1994.

17. (c)

Explanation:

- Brandt Line is a concept that illustrates the **global disparities in income and development.**
- It serves as a symbolic representation of the **economic and social divide between the affluent, industrialized "North" and the less developed "South."**
- The Brandt Line divides the world roughly into two parts. The **"North"** encompasses the more economically advanced and industrialized countries of **North America, Europe,** and parts of Asia, while the **"South"** encompasses the less prosperous regions of **Africa, Latin America,** and much of Asia.
- The concept was introduced in the context of addressing global poverty and income inequality, emphasizing the stark contrast in living standards and economic development between these two regions. It drew attention to the economic disparities and called for international cooperation and assistance to bridge the gap.
- The Brandt Line also highlighted the **North's historical exploitation of the South,** including issues related to trade, foreign aid, and debt. It remains a valuable symbol for discussions on international development, economic cooperation, and efforts to reduce global poverty. **Hence, option (c) is correct.**

18. (a)

Explanation:

- India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have signed a pact to establish Local Currency Settlement System (LCSS) to promote the use of the **Indian rupee** (INR) and **UAE Dirham** (AED) for **cross-border transactions.**
- The LCSS will enable exporters and importers to **pay in** their **respective domestic currencies** and enable the development of an INR-AED forex market. **Hence, statement (1) is correct.**

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- It covers all current account transactions and **permitted capital account transactions. Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- It will **reduce transaction costs** and **settlement time,** including for remittances by Indians in the UAE.
- India could use this mechanism to pay for imports of oil and other commodities from the UAE.

Significance of Rupee Based Cross Border Transaction:

- India is looking to work out a way to mitigate exchange rate risks in the rupee-based trade to limit losses for Indian exporters. The rupee-based transaction is part of a concerted policy effort by India to **Internationalise the Rupee** to **bring down** the **dollar demand.**
- The RBI's plan to settle international trade in the local currency will let importers make payments in the rupee, which will be credited to the special account of the correspondent bank of the partner country, while exporters will be paid from the balances in the designated special account.

19. (b)

Explanation:

- **Kazakhstan** is a **landlocked country** of **Central Asia.** It is bounded on the northwest and north by **Russia,** on the east by **China,** and on the south by **Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan,** the Aral Sea, and **Turkmenistan;** the Caspian Sea bounds Kazakhstan to the southwest. Kazakhstan is the largest country in Central Asia and the ninth largest in the world. **Hence, option (b) is correct.**

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20. (a)

Explanation:

- It was **launched in May 2019** through which the Department receives all new applications related to research proposals. This has made the whole process transparent and time bound. **Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- It is a web-based portal, with a major thrust to reach out to researchers, industry and other stakeholders to provide latest scientific information and regulatory guidance related to authorization of Genetically Modified Organisms/Living Modified Organisms (GMOs/LMOs) and products thereof.
- **Indian Biosafety Knowledge Portal (IBKP) is a web-based portal,** with a major thrust to reach out to researchers, industry and other stakeholders to provide latest scientific information and regulatory guidance related to authorization of GMOs/LMOs and products thereof.
- IBKP is an interactive online web portal for transactions in dealing with Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation (RCGM) serviced by **Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology,** Government of India under the Rules for Manufacture, Use/Import/Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/ Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells, 1989 (Rules 1989) of Environment (Protection) Act 1986. **Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- **The IBKP provides information on:**
  - Biosafety, Biocontainment guidelines, Check lists, etc.
  - Database on various ongoing research activities on GMOs/LMOs and products thereof in the country including scientific Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plans (RARMPs).
  - Linkages to international developments and scientific information.

21. (d)

Explanation:

- **Bioprospecting** (also known as biodiversity prospecting) is the **exploration of natural sources** for small molecules, macromolecules and biochemical and genetic information that could be developed into **commercially valuable products** for the agriculture, aquaculture, bioremediation, cosmetics, nanotechnology etc. **Hence, statement (1) is NOT correct.**
- Researchers and companies engage in bioprospecting to uncover new products or technologies, often with the consent and equitable sharing of benefits with the communities or countries where these resources are found.
- **Biopiracy** is the practice of **exploiting** naturally occurring genetic or **biochemical material** in **commerce.**
- It refers to the **unethical** and often illegal exploitation of indigenous knowledge and biological resources by corporations or researchers **without fair compensation** or consent. **Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- It raises concerns about the **rights** and **sovereignty of indigenous communities** and the equitable sharing of benefits.
- The Biological Diversity Act ,2002 was enacted to provide for the **conservation of biological diversity, sustainable use of its components,** and fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the use of biological resources and traditional knowledge.
- The Act prohibits any person or organization from obtaining any biological resource, occurring in India for its research or commercial utilisation, without prior approval from the **National Biodiversity Authority.**
- The act envisaged a three-tier structure to regulate the access to biological resources:
  - **The National Biodiversity Authority** (NBA) at national level
  - **The State Biodiversity Boards** (SBBs) at state level
  - **The Biodiversity Management Committees** (BMCs) (at local level)

22. (b)

Explanation:

- In **bryophytes** the plant body is differentiated into a crude stem and simple leaves, but true roots are **absent**. **Hence, statement (1) is NOT correct.**
- They usually grow in moist places. E.g., **Liverworts, mosses**.
- They have **"rhizoids"** instead of roots which helps the plant to anchor to surface.
- These roots or rhizoids do not absorb nutrients like other usual plant roots.
- Mosses release spores from their leaves which travels by water and make new mosses in new locations.
- Water is very essential for mosses to grow and spread. They can entirely dry out and survive. When in contact with water, they again revive and continue growing.

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- They are the second largest group of green plants in India distributed largely in Eastern Himalaya, North-eastern India, Western Himalaya and the Western Ghats.
- **Mosses** constitute the major component of Indian bryoflora followed by **liverworts** and **hornworts. Hence, statement (2) is correct.**
- The bryophytes show an alternation of generations between the independent gametophyte generation, which produces the sex organs and sperm and eggs, and the dependent sporophyte generation, which produces the spores.
- Fragmentation of the gametophyte also results in vegetative reproduction: each living fragment has the potential to grow into a complete gametophyte.
- The mature gametophyte of most mosses is leafy in appearance, but some liverworts and hornworts have a flattened gametophyte, called a thallus.

23. (c)

Explanation:

- The **Cartagena Protocol** is reinforced by the Nagoya—Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress. **Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- The Supplementary Protocol specifies response measures to be taken in the event of damage to biodiversity resulting from Living Modified Organisms (LMO's).
- The **Nagoya Protocol** on Access to Genetic Resources and the **Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits** Arising from their Utilization (ABS) to the **Convention on Biological Diversity** is a supplementary agreement to the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- The **Nagoya Protocol** on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization (ABS) to the Convention on Biological Diversity was adopted on 29 October 2010 in Nagoya, Japan at COP10. It **entered into force on 12 October 2014.**
- It **provides a transparent legal framework** for the effective implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity:
  - The fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.
  - It not only applies to genetic resources that are covered by the CBD, and to the benefits arising from their utilization but also covers **Traditional Knowledge** (TK) associated with genetic resources that are covered by the CBD and the benefits arising from their utilisation.
- In 2021, the **Kunming Declaration** was adopted by over 100 countries a COP-15 to the united nation convention on biodiversity in China. **Hence, statement (2) is correct.**
- **30×30 Deal:**
  - **Restore 30% degraded ecosystems** globally (on land and sea) by 2030
  - **Conserve and manage 30% areas** (terrestrial, inland water, and coastal and marine) by 2030

24. (a)

Explanation:

- The **Changwon Declaration** highlights positive action for ensuring **human well-being and security** in the future under the themes - **water, climate change, people's livelihood** and **health, land use change,** and **biodiversity.** Changwon Declaration on **human well-being and wetlands.**
- The Changwon Initiative was one of two major outcomes of United Nation Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) –Conference of Parties-10, and it became a pillar of support for the other one: the global target of **"zero net land degradation".**
- **Activities sponsored through the initiative turned the vision of Land Degradation Neutrality into a concrete concept** to stabilize the quantity and quality of land resources supporting ecosystems.
- Defining Land Degradation Neutrality and ensuring its inclusion in the Sustainable Development Goals has drawn a spotlight on the urgency of the issue - and with it on the UNCCD.
- The Changwon Initiative also supports the Land degradation neutrality target setting programme which helps countries setting national baselines, creating voluntary national Land degradation neutrality targets and defining measures towards achieving them.
- So far, 128 countries have joined the programme and more than 100 of those have already committed themselves not to degrade more land than they restore.

Hence, option (a) is correct.

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25. (b)

Explanation:

- **Environmental Impact Assessment** (EIA) is a process of **evaluating the likely environmental impacts of a proposed project or development,** taking into account **inter-related socio-economic, cultural and human-health impacts,** both beneficial and adverse.
- UNEP defines Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) as a tool used to identify the environmental, social and economic impacts of a project prior to decision-making.
- It aims to predict environmental impacts at an early stage in project planning and design, find ways and means to reduce adverse impacts, shape projects to suit the local environment and present the predictions and options to decision-makers.
- Environment Impact Assessment in India is statutorily backed by **the Environment Protection Act, 1986** which contains various provisions on EIA methodology and process.
- EIA is basically a study to predict the environmental effects of a proposed project before it is undertaken. **Hence, option(b) is correct.**

26. (a)

Explanation:

- Radioactive waste is produced by military activities and beneficial practices in medicine, research and industry. **Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- There are three main categories: low-level, intermediate-level, and high-level waste, with increasing levels of radioactivity.
- **Low-level waste** can often be **disposed of in near-surface repositories,** while **intermediate** and **high-level waste** require more **secure containment,** typically in **deep geological repositories.** The long-term challenge lies in ensuring the safe storage of high-level waste, which remains hazardous for thousands of years, necessitating robust engineering and regulatory oversight.
- The most important waste from a nuclear power plant is radioactive nuclear waste.
- The criteria defining these three main types of waste are derived from the waste's radioactive content and half-life, i.e., the time taken to lose half of the radioactivity.
- Alpha particles are positively charged He (Helium) atoms, beta particles are negatively charged electrons and gamma rays are neutral electromagnetic radiation. **Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**

27. (a)

Explanation:

- The Central Pollution control Board is mandated to track noise levels, set standards as well as ensure, via their state units, that sources of excessive noise are controlled.
- The agency has a manual monitoring system where sensors are installed in major cities and few cities have the facility to track noise levels in real time.
- Earlier, **noise pollution and its sources** were addressed under the **Air (Prevention and control of pollution) Act, 1981.**
- Now, Noise pollution is regulated separately under the **Noise pollution (Regulation and control) Rules, 2000. Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- Additionally, **noise standards for motor vehicles, air-conditioners, refrigerators,** diesel generators and certain types of construction equipment are prescribed under the Environment protection rules ,1986.
- **Noise emanating from industry** is regulated by **State pollution control board / Pollution Control Committees (SPCBs / PCCs)** for states / Union territories under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. **Hence, statement (1) is correct.**

28. (a)

Explanation:

- Plasticulture refers to the practice of using plastic materials in **agricultural applications.**
- The plastic materials themselves are often and broadly referred to as **"ag plastics."**
- Ag plastics include **soil fumigation film, irrigation drip tape/tubing, nursery pots** and **silage bags,** but the term is most often used to describe all kinds of plastic plant/soil coverings.
- Such coverings range from plastic mulch film, row coverings, high and low tunnels, to plastic greenhouses.
- Plastics can play a major role in energy conservation. They require minimum energy in production and conversion to finished products. Plastics have definite advantages over conventional materials and are potent applicant in agriculture due to:

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- Higher strength / weight ratio.
- Superior electrical properties.
- Superior thermal insulation properties.
- Excellent Corrosion resistance
- Superior flexibility.
- Impermeability to water, gas, etc.
- Resistance to chemicals.
- Less friction due to smoother surface.

Hence, option (a) is correct.

29. (c)

Explanation:

- At present **cyclone**, **drought,** earthquake, fire, flood, tsunami, hailstorm, landslide, avalanche, **cloudburst**, **pest attack, frost and cold waves** are considered disasters that are covered under the State Disaster Relief Fund. This **does not include lightning** yet. **Hence, option (c) is correct.**
- Lightning has been a cause of concern in India, leading to a significant number of fatalities each year. As demands arise from states like Bihar and West Bengal to declare lightning a natural disaster, the Union government has taken a cautious stance.
- If approved, **victims would be entitled to compensation** from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), of which 75% is contributed by the Central government.

30. (a)

Explanation:

- The **Kaas Plateau,** located in **Maharashtra's Satara district,** is a **UNESCO** World Natural Heritage Site and a **designated biodiversity hotspot. Hence, statement (1) is correct, and statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- Known as **Kaas Pathar in Marathi,** its name is derived from the **Kaasa tree,** botanically known as Elaeocarpus glandulosus (rudraksha family). The plateau has various seasonal flowers forming a floral carpet over the entire lateritic crust during August and September.
- The present **"Flower Wonder"** of the Kaas Plateau is located on an ancient lake that dates back to the Early-Mid-Holocene period, **approximately 8000 years ago.**
- A recent study has shed light on significant climate shifts in the Kaas Plateau during the early-Mid-Holocene and late Holocene Periods.

31. (b)

Explanation:

- They are the **smallest and fastest of all apes.** They have long, slender arms and can swing from tree to tree at speed of upto 55 km/hr. They are **diurnal and arboreal.** They live in monogamous pairs and stake out territory. **Hence, statement (3) is correct.**
- Gibbons are the **only ape species** found in India. **Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- They are found in **forested areas of Northeast India,** Bangladesh, Myanmar and Southern China. **Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- Two distinct hoolock gibbon species are found in India's northeastern region: the eastern hoolock gibbon (Hoolock leuconedys) and the western hoolock gibbon (Hoolock hoolock).
- On International Union for Conservation of Nature's **Red List:**
  - **Western Hoolock Gibbon: Endangered**
  - **Eastern Hoolock Gibbon: Vulnerable.**
- Also, both the species are **listed on Schedule 1 of the Indian (Wildlife) Protection Act 1972.** In India, the primary threat to hoolock gibbons is the loss of their natural habitat caused by deforestation for infrastructure projects.

32. (b)

Explanation:

- The **National Carbon Registry** is open-source software that helps countries manage carbon credit trading. The **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)** created the registry. It was recently accredited as a **digital public good (DPG).**
- The **National Carbon Registry** allows countries to:
  - Manage national data
  - Track carbon credit transactions from mitigation activities
  - Digitally implement the Paris Agreement
- The registry is part of the **UNDP's Climate Change Programme,** which aims to help countries limit the effects of climate change. The program also supports countries in formulating their National Adaptation Plans. **Hence, option (b) is correct.**

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33. (a)

Explanation:

- **Ecocide refers to the extensive damage or destruction of ecosystems, whether intentional or unintentional, due to human activities.**
- It involves actions such as deforestation, pollution, and habitat destruction that result in severe harm to the environment and the organisms that depend on it.
- **Recognizing and addressing ecocide** is essential in environmental law and ethics to protect the planet's biodiversity and ecological balance. **Hence, option (a) is correct.**
- Although there is currently no universally recognized legal description of ecocide, a group of lawyers convened by an **NGO named Stop Ecocide Foundation** in June 2021 crafted a definition that would place environmental devastation within the same realm as crimes against humanity.

34. (d)

Explanation:

- New research by an international team of scientists explains what's behind a stalled trend in **Arctic Ocean sea ice loss** since 2007.
- **'Atlantification'** is a term used in climate science and oceanography t**o describe the process by which the Arctic Ocean is becoming more similar in characteristics to the Atlantic Ocean due to the effects of climate change. Hence, option (d) is correct.**
- This includes a range of changes, such as increasing sea surface temperatures, melting sea ice, and altered ocean circulation patterns.

35. (c)

Explanation:

- **Kharchi Puja** is a significant festival celebrated in the **state of Tripura and NOT Madhya Pradesh.** Also known as the **'Festival of 14 Gods,'** this traditional event involves the worship of Chaturdasa Devata, (housed in the ancient Ujjayanta Palace), the ancestral deity of the Tripuri people. **Hence, pair (2) is NOT correctly matched.**
- **Ugadi** is a festival that marks the beginning of the Hindu New Year. It is celebrated in the southern states of India, particularly in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Karnataka. **Hence, pair (1) is correctly matched.**
- **Karaga is a folk festival in Karnataka,** India. It is one of the oldest festivals in the state, with a history of over 300 years. The festival is celebrated in honour of **Goddess Shakti at the Dharmarayaswamy temple** in Bangalore. **Hence, pair (3) is correctly matched.**
- **Shigmo, or Shishirotsava** is a spring festival celebrated in the Indian state of Goa, where it is one of the major festivals of the Hindu community. **Hence, pair (4) is correctly matched.**

36. (d)

Explanation:

- The **Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve** is the **seventh tiger reserve in Madhya Pradesh** and the **54th in India.** It is located in the **Sagar, Damoh,** and Narsinghpur districts of Madhya Pradesh. The reserve covers an area of 2,339 square kilometres. **Hence, statement (1) is NOT correct.**
- Madhya Pradesh, with the greatest number of tigers in a state has retained the **"tiger state"** status in the **2022 census** with the number of big cats in the state **rising to 785 from 526 in 2018. Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- Various areas under Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve have been notified by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change with a view to ensuring the conservation of wild animals.
- Until now, **M.P. was home to six tiger reserves – Kanha, Bandhavgarh, Satpura, Pench, Panna and Sanjay-Dubri.**

37. (b)

Explanation:

- Out of the **five rivers** listed, **three of them do not have their origin in India.** The rivers that do not originate in India are:
  - **Kosi:** The Kosi River originates in Tibet and flows through Nepal and northern Bihar in India.
  - **Gandak:** The Gandak River also originates in Tibet, flows through Nepal, and enters India in the state of Bihar.
  - **Ghagra:** The Ghagra River has its source in Tibet and flows through Nepal. It joins the Sharda River in India at Brahma Ghat. The river is also known as the 'Karnali'.

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- On the other hand, both the **Damodar and Yamuna rivers originate in India.**
- The **Damodar River originates in the Chota Nagpur Plateau** in the Indian state of Jharkhand, and the **Yamuna River originates** from **Yamunotri glacier** in the state of Uttarakhand. **Hence, option (b) is correct.**

38. (c)

Explanation:

- **Phosphorus is scarce and exists only in limited quantities, in certain geological formations.**
- The world's largest reserves are in Morocco and the Western Sahara region. But here, phosphorus coexists with cadmium, a heavy metal that can accumulate in animal and human kidneys when ingested. Removing cadmium is also an expensive process. **Hence, statement-I is correct.**
- India is **deficient in Apatite** (group of phosphate minerals) **& Rock Phosphate availability.**
- According to **Indian Minerals Yearbook 2018,** in case of apatite, the country is fully dependent upon imports, while the Rock Phosphate production is only from two states namely, **Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.**
- India is the world's **largest importer of phosphorus,** primarily **sourcing it from West African deposits contaminated with cadmium. Hence, statement-II is NOT correct.**
- Not all crops absorb cadmium at the same rate, but paddy, a staple crop in India, is particularly susceptible; Indian farmers also apply a lot of fertilisers to paddy. Other grains, such as wheat, barley, and maize also absorb cadmium, just less.
- Indigenous communities devised various fertilization methods, **including using fish remnants and bird droppings (guano).**

39. (b)

Explanation:

- **The "Asian Premium" refers to an additional charge imposed by oil-exporting countries the OPEC nations, on Asian countries when they purchase crude oil compared to what they charge Western countries for the same oil.**
- This practice has been in place since the 1980s.
- The premium is essentially an extra cost that Asian oil importers must bear due to their dependence on oil imports and their historical status as price-takers in the global oil market.
- **It is a result of oil exporters using their bargaining power to charge higher prices** to Asian nations while offering more favourable terms to their American and European customers.

Hence, option (b) is correct.

40. (b)

Explanation:

National Technical Textiles Mission:

USAGE OF TECHNICAL TEXTILES IN 12 SEGMENTS (BASED ON APPLICATION)
MEDITECH
Diapers, Sanitary Napkins, Disposables, Contact Lens, Artificial Implants
MOBILTECH
Airbags, Helmets, Nylon Tyre Cords, Airline Disposables
OEKOTECH
Recycling, Waste Disposal, Environmental Protection
PACKTECH
Wrapping Fabrics, Polyolefin Woven Sacks, Leno Bags, Jute Sacks
PROTECH
Bullet Proof Jackets, Fire Retardant Apparels, High Visibility Clothing
SPORTECH
Sports Net, Artificial Turf, Parachute Fabrics, Tents, Swimwear
AGROTECH
Shadenets, Fishing Nets, Mulch Mats, Ant Hail Nets
BUILDTECH
Cotton Canvas Tarpaulins, Floor and Wall Coverings, Canopies
CLOTHTECH
Zip Fasteners, Garments, Umbrella Cloth, Shoelaces
GEOTECH
Geogrids, Geonets, Geocomposites
HOMECH
Mattress and Pillow Fillings, Stuffed Toys, Blinds, Carpets
GEOTECH
Conveyer Belts, Vehicle Seat Belts, Bolting Cloth

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- To increase the penetration level of technical textiles in India while leveraging the extraordinary growth rate of the sector, **the Ministry of Textiles** has launched the National Technical Textiles Mission. The aim of the mission is to position India as a global leader in Technical Textiles. **Hence, statement (1) is NOT correct.**
- It **also supports the 'Make in India' initiative** promoting domestic manufacturing of related machinery and equipment. **Hence, statement (3) is correct.**
- **The mission will comprise of the following four components:**
  - Research, Innovation and Development
  - Promotion and Market Development
  - Export Promotion
  - Education, Training, Skill Development
- The National Technical Textiles Mission has been approved with an implementation period of **four years starting from FY 2020-21 till FY 2023-24. Hence, statement (2) is correct.**

41. (b)

Explanation:

- The law, named after **English financier Thomas Gresham,** came into play most recently during the economic crisis in Sri Lanka last year, during which **the Central Bank of Sri Lanka fixed the exchange rate between the Sri Lankan rupee and the U.S. dollar.**
- Gresham's law refers to the dictum that **"bad money drives out good."** Gresham's law comes into play when the exchange rate between two moneys or currencies is fixed by the government at a certain ratio that is different from the market exchange rate.
- Such price fixing causes the **undervalued currency** — that is, the currency whose price is fixed at a level below the market rate — **to go out of circulation.** The **overvalued currency,** on the other hand, **remains in circulation but it does not find enough buyers.**
- Stable currencies, such as the U.S. dollar or the euro, can be considered good money as they circulate as an international medium of exchange. Weaker currencies of less developed nations circulate very little outside the jurisdictions of their issuing countries and can be considered bad money for example Sri Lankan Rupee. **Hence, option (b) is correct.**

42. (d)

Explanation:

- The **G20 TechSprint** is a joint initiative between **the G20 Presidency and the Bank for International Settlements Innovation Hub (BISIH)** to seek out best-in-class novel technological solutions aimed at addressing high priority areas of interest amongst the global community. **Hence, statement (1) is NOT correct.**
- Under India's G20 Presidency, **the Reserve Bank of India and the BISIH** are soliciting **innovative technological solutions to transform global cross-border payments landscape** in the fourth edition of the G20 TechSprint.
- They invited the international community of innovators, entrepreneurs, start-ups, changemakers, creators, developers, data scientists, designers, digital marketing and communication experts who are passionate about creating extraordinary impact to come up with innovative technological solutions to **key challenges in the cross-border payments arena. Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**

43. (a)

Explanation:

- The report **Generative AI and Jobs** has been published by **International Labour Organization (ILO)** as a working paper in August 2023. The report **assesses the impact of generative artificial intelligence on job quantity and quality. Hence, option (a) is correct.**
- The report suggests that **a majority of jobs and industries** will experience partial, rather than complete, automation exposure, which implies that the latest wave of Generative AI, like **chatGPT,** will likely enhance and supplement these roles instead of replacing them. As a result, the primary effect of this technology is expected to be a transformation in job quality, particularly concerning factors like the level of effort required and the degree of independence in tasks.
- In nations with low income, merely 0.4% of overall employment faces potential exposure to automation effects, while in high-income countries, this proportion escalates to 5.5%. The more significant influence stems from augmentation, with the capacity to impact 10.4% of employment in low-income nations and 13.4% of employment in high-income nations.

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- The study's findings indicate that t**he socio-economic consequences** of Generative AI will heavily rely on **the management of its dissemination.**

44. (d)

Explanation:

- In India, food inflation is influenced by a myriad of factors, and each of the elements listed plays a role in shaping the dynamics of food prices in the country.
- **Open Market Sale Scheme:** The government's Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) has a **direct impact on food inflation.** When the government decides to release or withhold food stocks, it can influence the supply and demand dynamics in the market, which, in turn, affect food prices. Therefore, this scheme is a key factor in food inflation management.
- **Monsoon Variability:** The monsoon is a pivotal factor in **India's agriculture-dependent economy.** Inconsistent or inadequate monsoons can lead to reduced crop yields and agricultural productivity, which affects the availability and prices of food commodities. Thus, monsoon variability is a significant contributor to food inflation.
- **Minimum Support Price (MSP) policy:** If the MSPs are set too high, it can lead to increased food prices and inflation. Conversely, if they are set too low, it can impact farmers' income and food production.
- **Exchange Rate Fluctuations:** A weaker rupee can make imports more expensive, leading to increased prices for commodities such as edible oil, pulses, and even fuel, all of which can contribute to food inflation.
- **Outbreak of Pest and Diseases:** Pest outbreaks and diseases affecting crops can have a severe impact on food production. **Crop losses due to infestations** or diseases can reduce the supply of food in the market, leading to higher prices and contributing to food inflation.

Hence, option (d) is correct.

45. (b)

Explanation:

- **AIDS is a** chronic, potentially life-threatening health condition **caused by Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)** that interferes with the body's ability to fight infections. **Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- HIV spreads through **contact with certain body fluids** (blood, semen, etc.) from an infected person.
- Transmission routes include **unprotected sex, sharing contaminated needles, and mother-to-child** during childbirth or breastfeeding.
- **Antiretroviral therapy (ART) is treatment of people infected with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) using anti-HIV drugs.**
- **The standard treatment consists of a combination of drugs (often called "highly active antiretroviral therapy" or HAART) that suppress HIV replication. Hence, statement (2) is correct.**
- **Today, antiretroviral medications (ART) make HIV a manageable condition, but neither a vaccine nor a cure are available. Hence, statement (3) is NOT correct.**
- However, the fight for a cure isn't over, and new biotechnologies may finally provide a definitive remedy for people living with HIV.

46. (c)

Explanation:

- **Recently, NITI Aayog has released the Report "National Multidimensional Poverty Index: A Progress Review 2023",** claiming that a significant number of people have come out of multidimensional poverty in India. **Hence, statement (3) is correct.**
- The report has been **prepared based on the latest National Family Health Survey-5 (2019-21)** and is the 2nd edition of the National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI). **Hence, statement (1) is NOT correct.**
- The first edition of MPI was released in 2021.
- The MPI seeks to measure Poverty across its multiple dimensions and in effect complements existing poverty statistics based on per capita consumption expenditure.
- **It has three equally weighted dimensions – Health, Education, and Standard of living. Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- These three dimensions are represented by 12 indicators such as nutrition, child and adolescent mortality, maternal health, years of schooling, school attendance, cooking fuel, sanitation, drinking water, electricity, housing, assets, and bank accounts.

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47. (b)

Explanation:

- First time since 2010, the **United Nations Secretary-General has removed India from the 2023 report on Children and Armed Conflict in view of measures taken by the Indian government to protect children.**
- India was **previously accused of recruiting and using boys in armed groups in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K).**
- In December 1996, the **UN General Assembly (UNGA)** took the unprecedented decision to create a mandate to protect children from hostilities and **adopted resolution 51/77 which created the Report on Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC) mandate.**
- The recruitment or use of children below the age of 15 as soldiers is prohibited by both the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the additional protocols to the Geneva Conventions.
- **Also, the UN has identified the recruitment and use of child soldiers as among six "grave violations". Other Five violations are:**
  - Killing and maining of children
  - Sexual violence against children
  - Abduction of children
  - Attacks against schools and hospitals
  - Denial of humanitarian access

Hence, option (b) is correct.

48. (a)

Explanation:

- The **'Adopt a Heritage: Apni Dharohar, Apni Pehchaan' scheme** is an initiative of the **Ministry of Tourism,** in collaboration with **the Ministry of Culture and the Archaeological Survey of India. Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- Under it, the government invites entities**, including public sector companies, private sector firms as well as individuals, to develop selected monuments and heritage and tourist sites across India. Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- Development of these tourist sites calls for providing and maintaining basic amenities, including drinking water, night-viewing facilities, tourism facilitation centres, etc.
- The sites/monument are selected on the basis of tourist footfall and visibility and can be adopted by private and public sector companies and individuals — known as Monument Mitras — for an initial period of five years.
- The **Monument Mitras** are selected by the **'oversight and vision committee,'** co-chaired by the Tourism Secretary and the Culture Secretary, on the basis of the bidder's 'vision' for development of all amenities at the heritage site. There is no financial bid involved.
- The **corporate** sector is expected to **use corporate social responsibility (CSR) funds for the upkeep of the site.** The Monument Mitras, in turn, will get limited visibility on the site premises and on the Incredible India website. The oversight committee also has the power to terminate a memorandum of understanding in case of non-compliance or non-performance

49. (a)

Explanation:

- Recently, **Santiniketan,** which is a town located in Birbhum district of West Bengal, was included in the **UNESCO's World Heritage List.**
- The town of Santiniketan was founded by **Maharshi Devendranath Tagore,** the father of Rabindranath Tagore.
- In 1863, Maharshi Devendranath Tagore purchased a large piece of land in Bhubandanga, which he renamed Santiniketan, meaning "abode of peace." **Hence, statement (1) is NOT correct.**
- He established an ashram, or spiritual retreat, on the land and started to teach his students about the principles of the Brahmo Samaj, as well as the importance of nature and simplicity.
- **In 1901, Rabindranath started a Brahmacharyaashrama, which became known as Patha Bhavana in 1925. This school later evolved into Visva Bharati University. Hence, statement (2) is correct.**
- **Shantiniketan was founded on the principles of the ancient Indian Gurukul system,** where education was provided in a natural setting, fostering a strong connection between students and their environment. **Hence, statement (3) is NOT correct.**

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50. (c)

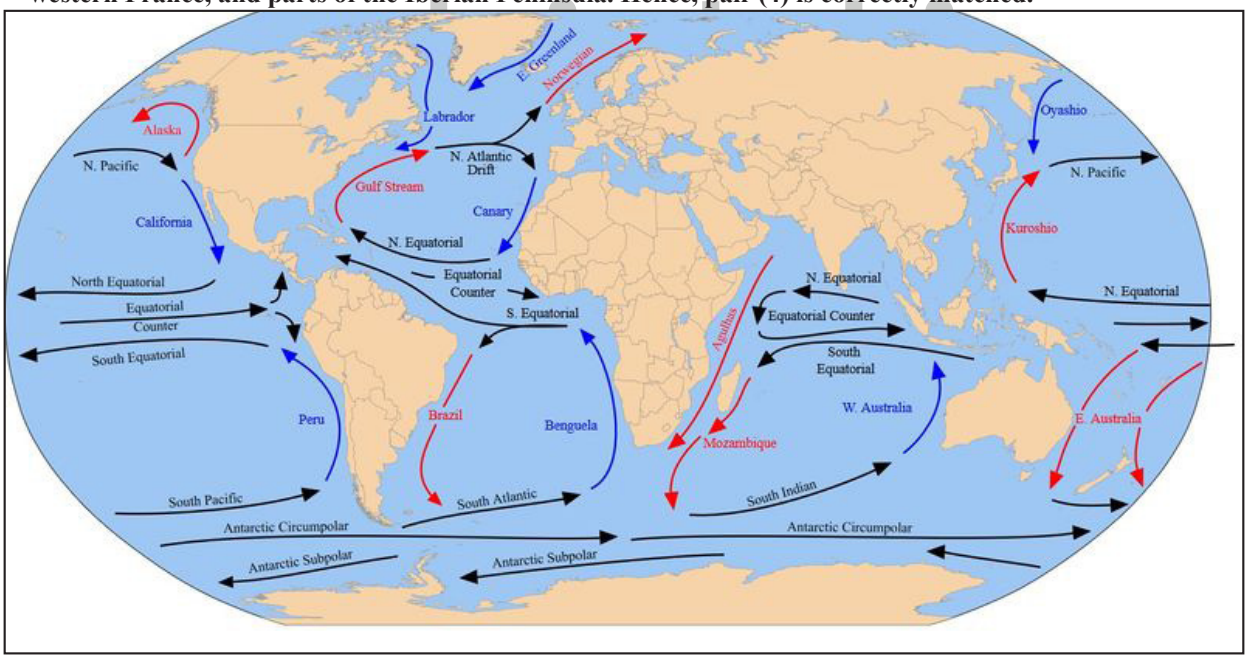
Explanation:

- Atomic bomb, also called atom bomb, weapon with great explosive power that results from **the sudden release of energy upon the splitting, or fission, of the nuclei of a heavy element such as plutonium or uranium. Hence, statement (2) is correct.**
- The first atomic bomb was built in Los Alamos, New Mexico, **during World War II under a program called the Manhattan Project. Hence, statement (3) is correct.**
- **The first atomic bomb to be used in warfare used uranium. It was dropped by the United States on Hiroshima, Japan, on August 6, 1945, i.e, during World War II. Hence, statement (1) is NOT correct.**
- The bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945 marked the **first and only use of atomic weapons in warfare** during World War II, **but atomic weapons have been tested and developed in subsequent years. Hence, statement (4) is correct.**

51. (c)

Explanation:

- The **Agulhas Current** is found along **the east coast of Africa** and carries **warm water** from the tropics to higher latitudes. It transports heat from the tropics to **South Africa** and other parts of southern Africa, which helps to keep the region warm in winter. **Hence, pair (1) is correctly matched.**
- The **Humboldt Current** is an ocean current that flows northwards along the western coastline of **South America** and into the Southeast Pacific Ocean. The **cold**, low salinity ocean current is also referred to as t**he Peru Current.** The current is usually cold, except during **El Nino** events. Due to its cold nature, the currents lead to the formation of fog along the coastal regions of **Peru**, **Chile,** and **Ecuador. Hence, pair (2) is correctly matched.**
- **Benguela Current:** It is branch of West Wind Drift of the Southern Hemisphere, Eastern portion of South Atlantic Ocean Gyre. It is a low salinity, presence of upwelling- excellent fishing zone. The Benguela Current influences the coastal regions of **Namibia and Angola** along the southwestern coast of Africa. **Hence, pair (3) is NOT correctly matched.**
- **Norwegian Current:** It is a branch of North Atlantic Drift and sometimes also considered as an extension of the Gulf Stream. Its influence extends beyond **Norway**, affecting the climate of Western Europe. It warms the air masses that come into contact with it, which contributes to the relatively mild and maritime climate of regions like the **British Isles, western France, and parts of the Iberian Peninsula. Hence, pair (4) is correctly matched.**



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52. (a)

Explanation:

- Coral polyps live with algae in a type of relationship called **symbiosis.** This means the organisms cooperate with each other. The algae, called zooxanthellae, live inside the corals, which provide a tough outer shell made from calcium carbonate. In return for that protection, **the algae provide their host with food produced through photosynthesis. Zooxanthellae also provide corals with their striking colors. Hence, statement (1) is NOT correct, and statement (2) is correct.**
- These reefs are built by coral polyps and can take **different forms, including barrier reefs, fringing reefs, atoll,** and platform reefs.
- They have been called **"the rain forests of the seas."**
- This symbiotic relationship is strongly dependent on the temperature of the surrounding water. As the water warms, zooxanthellae are expelled from a coral's tissue, causing it to lose its color and a major source of food. This process is known as **"coral bleaching."**
- Coral bleaching does not always mean the death of a coral reef. Corals can recover their zooxanthellae in time, but the process requires cooler temperatures.
- Warmer ocean water also becomes more acidic. Ocean acidification is making it more difficult for corals to build their hard exoskeletons. **Hence, statement (3) is NOT correct.**

53. (a)

Explanation:

- **Mediterranean climate** is understood as one of the temperate climates, such as the Chinese, the Pampean or the oceanic. It is characterized by **dry and hot summers, rainy and cold winters,** and autumns and variable springs in both rainfall and temperature levels. **Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- It is named for the Mediterranean Sea located in southern Europe and northern Africa, a region in which this climate is characteristic and encompasses its greatest geographical extension. This does not mean that it is not found in other regions of the planet, although with some variations.
- The most typical region in this sense is that which involves the European coasts of the Mediterranean Sea (Spain, Portugal, France, Italy, Greece, Albania, Croatia, Montenegro, Slovenia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, etc.) with the exception of the coasts of Tunisia, Libya and Egypt, in which the desert climate predominates.
- The Mediterranean climate can be found in every continent except for Antarctica. In North America, the Mediterranean climate is found in **central and southern California.** In South America, **Chile's Central Valley is represented by this climate.**
- Mediterranean climate zone in Africa is in **southwestern South Africa, the Western Cape.** Asia's Mediterranean climate zone is represented in Israel, Lebanon, Southern Turkey, and northwest Iran. **Australia's southwest coast** has a Mediterranean climate. **Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**

54. (b)

Explanation:

- **Tropic of cancer passes through 8 states in India – Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Tripura, Mizoram.**

- Cities located near to Tropic of Cancer in India are Bhopal, Gandhinagar, Ranchi, Agartala, and Aizawl.

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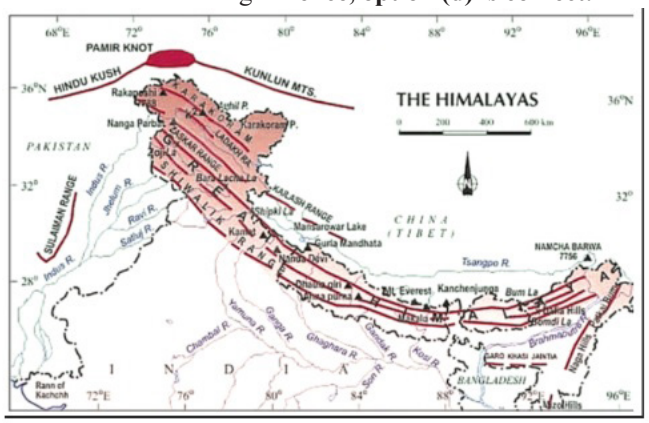
- **Raipur and Kolkata** are farthest among the above from the Tropic of Cancer. **Hence, option (b) is correct.**

55. (d)

Explanation:

- The correct sequence of Mountains from South to North: Shiwalik , Pir Panjal, Great Himalayas, Zaskar, Ladakh, Karakoram range. **Hence, option (d) is correct.**



56. (b)

Explanation:

- The Chambal rises near **Mhow in the Malwa plateau of Madhya Pradesh from the south of Vindhayan Range and** flows northwards through a gorge up wards of Kota in Rajasthan, where the Gandhisagar dam has been constructed.
- From Kota, it traverses down to Bundi, Sawai Madhopur and Dholpur, and **finally joins the Yamuna.** The Chambal is famous for **its badland topography called the Chambal ravines. Hence, statement (1) is NOT correct.**
- Ravines are formed by the deep erosive action of water on the alluvial soil. However, unlike ravines elsewhere in the country, those in Chambal Valley are massive—up to 10 metre deep and 30 metre high. **Worse, they are spreading fast. Hence, statement (2) is correct.**
- India's **national aquatic animal, the gangetic dolphin** and India's national animal, the **tiger are both found in this region. Hence, statement (3) is correct.**
- **Gharials,** a unique species of crocodile and nine species of freshwater turtles that are found in the Chambal River absorb heat or bask on sandbanks to regulate their body temperatures.
- **Indian Skimmers** are strikingly coloured birds, jet black on the upper side and white underneath with an orangish-red beak found here.

57. (b)

Explanation:

- **East Flowing River drains into Bay of Bengal:**
  - The Ganga, the Brahmaputra, the Mahanadi, the Godavari, the Krishna, the Cauvery, **the Penner,** the Penneiyar, the Vaigai, the Baitarni, **the Vamsadhara**, **the Brahmani** and the Subarnarekha.
- **West flowing river drains into Arabian sea:**
  - The Indus, the Narmada, the Tapi, the Sabarmati, the Mahi, the Ghagghar, the Luni, the Saravati, the Pumba, **the Periyar,** the Bharatpuja and the large number of swift flowing western coast rivers descending from the Sahyadris such as **the Shetrunji,** the Vaitarna, the Bedti, the **Mondovi** and the Sharavati.

Hence, option (b) is correct.

58. (c)

Explanation:

- **Andaman and Nicobar Islands:** These islands, located in the Bay of Bengal, usually experience the onset of the southwest monsoon in **May.** They are among **the first regions in India to receive the monsoon. Hence, option (c) is correct.**
- **Malabar Coast:** The southwest monsoon reaches the Malabar Coast of Kerala, on the southwestern tip of the Indian mainland, in the **first week of June.** It is one of the earliest regions on the mainland to receive monsoons.
- **Mawsynram:** Mawsynram, located in the northeastern state of Meghalaya, is known as one of the wettest places on Earth. It is influenced by the southwest monsoon and receives heavy rainfall during the monsoon season, which arrives in **June.**
- **Lakshadweep,** a group of islands in the Arabian Sea, also experiences the onset of the southwest monsoon around **the same time as the Malabar Coast of Kerala,** typically in the **first week of June.** These islands are located off the western coast of India, and like the Malabar Coast, they are among the first regions to receive the monsoon in the country.

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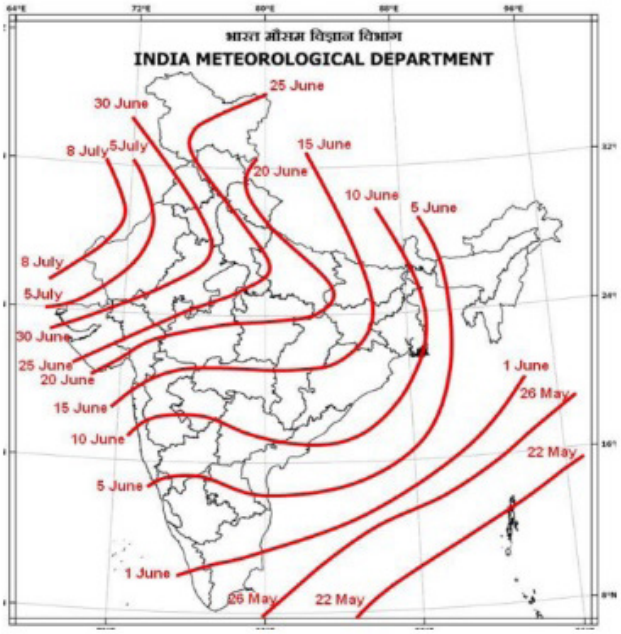

59. (a)

Explanation:

- The region of India where there is no rainfall during the Southwest Monsoon but receives rainfall during the winter is the **Coromandel Coast.** This phenomenon can be explained as follows:
- During the Southwest Monsoon season, the prevailing winds bring moisture-laden air from the southwest, which leads to the onset of the monsoon in many parts of India.
- However, t**he Eastern Ghats, which run parallel to the Coromandel Coast, act as a barrier to the moisture-laden winds.** As a result, the Coromandel Coast, located on the eastern side of the Eastern Ghats, receives very little rainfall during the Southwest Monsoon.
- In contrast, during the winter months, a different wind pattern prevails. The Northeast Monsoon, also known as the winter monsoon, **brings moisture from the Bay of Bengal towards the Coromandel Coast.** This change in wind direction results in rainfall during the winter season along the Coromandel Coast, making it distinct from the Southwest Monsoon, which primarily affects other regions of India during the summer months.

Hence, option (a) is correct.

60. (c)

Explanation:

- **Pampas:** The Pampas are vast lowlands in **Argentina,** known for their fertile soils and grassy plains. They are a major agricultural region and home to cattle ranching. The landscape includes rolling hills and wetlands. **Hence, pair (1) is correctly matched.**
- **Velds:** The term "veld" is primarily used in **South Africa** and refers to the open grassy plains and plateaus found in the country. These grasslands are essential for livestock farming, particularly cattle and wildlife conservation. **Hence, pair (2) is NOT correctly matched.**
- **Llanos:** The Llanos are expansive grassy plains found in **Venezuela** and **Colombia.** They are seasonally flooded, with a diverse range of wildlife, including various bird species, reptiles, and large mammals like jaguars. **Hence, pair (3) is correctly matched.**
- **Hulun Buir:** Hulun Buir is a region located in northern **China** and parts of **Mongolia.** It consists of vast grasslands, forests, and wetlands. The region is known for its traditional nomadic culture and is a habitat for a variety of wildlife, including the endangered Przewalski's horse. **Hence, pair (4) is correctly matched.**

61. (c)

Explanation:

- The **Okavango Delta** is situated in **Botswana** and is primarily fed by seasonal rains and the **Okavango River.**
- Unlike many other river deltas, this is **the inland delta,** unique because its water comes from seasonal rains in the Angolan highlands. The water flows into the Okavango River, which then spills over into the delta, creating a lush and diverse ecosystem in the midst of the **Kalahari Desert.**
- This delta is a vital source of water and a haven for wildlife in the region.

Hence, option (c) is correct.

62. (c)

Explanation:

- The planet earth initially was a barren, rocky and hot object with a thin atmosphere of **hydrogen and helium.**
- **Cosmic radiation** refers to high-energy particles, such as protons and atomic nuclei, originating from various sources in the universe. Studies suggest that cosmic rays have influenced **cloud formation** in the Earth's atmosphere.

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- An increase in cosmic rays due to variations in solar activity can potentially lead to changes in cloud cover and affect Earth's **climate.**
- **Volcanic activity** has played a crucial role in shaping the Earth's surface and its atmosphere.
- Volcanoes are the result of internal geological processes, particularly plate tectonics, which involve the movement of Earth's lithospheric plates and the release of molten rock (magma) through volcanic eruptions. These processes contribute to the Earth's surface features, such as **mountains, oceans,** and the **recycling of Earth's crust.**
- The early atmosphere, with hydrogen and helium, is supposed to have been stripped off as a result of the solar winds.
- The formation of the Earth and other terrestrial planets is closely linked to the process of accretion, where **dust and gas** in the protoplanetary disk surrounding a young star gradually come together through gravitational attraction to form planetesimals and, eventually, planets.
- The early atmosphere, with hydrogen and helium, is supposed to have been stripped off as a result of the solar winds. The accumulation of interstellar dust particles also contributed to the same.
- This happened not only in the case of the earth, but also in all the terrestrial planets, which were supposed to have lost their primordial atmosphere through the impact of solar winds.

Hence, option (c) is correct.

63. (b)

Explanation:

- Weathering and erosion are fundamental geological processes that work together to shape the Earth's surface. The distinction between these processes lies in their specific actions:
- **Weathering** refers to the **breakdown** and **disintegration** of rocks in place. It is primarily a **mechanical** and **chemical process** through the actions of various elements of weather and climate.
- Mechanical weathering includes physical forces like frost action, pressure release, and root wedging, which break rocks into smaller pieces without moving them. Chemical weathering involves the alteration of rock minerals due to chemical reactions, leading to the decomposition of the rock.
- On the other hand, **erosion** involves the **removal** and **transport** of weathered rock material. Erosion agents, such as wind, water, ice, and gravity, transport the fragmented rock particles away from their original location.
- Erosion can result in the transport of sediment and its deposition in new locations.
- Weathering prepares rocks by breaking them down into smaller pieces and altering their mineral composition, while erosion acts to transport these weathered materials to new locations.
- Both processes play critical roles in shaping the Earth's landforms and landscapes. **Hence, option (b) is correct.**

64. (d)

Explanation:

- Soil is a dynamic medium in which many chemical, physical and biological activities go on constantly.
- **Time:** The length of time the soil forming processes operate, determines maturation of soils and profile development. A soil becomes mature when all soil-forming processes act for a sufficiently long time developing a profile. Soils developing from recently deposited alluvium or glacial till are considered young and exhibit poorly developed horizons.
- **Climate:** The climatic elements involved in soil development are: (i) moisture in terms of its intensity, frequency and duration of precipitation (ii) temperature in terms of seasonal and diurnal variations. Precipitation gives soil its moisture content which makes the chemical and biological activities possible.
- **Topography:** The influence of topography is felt through the amount of exposure of a surface covered by parent materials to sunlight and the amount of surface and sub-surface drainage over and through the parent materials.
- **Parent material:** It can be any in-situ weathered rock debris or transported deposits. Soil formation depends upon the texture and structure as well as the mineral and chemical composition of the rock debris.
- **Biological Activity:** The vegetative cover help in adding organic matter, moisture retention, nitrogen etc.to the soil. Dead plants provide humus. Some organic acids which form during humification aid in decomposing the minerals of the soil parent materials. **Hence, option (d) is correct.**

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65. (a)

Explanation:

- A **barchan** is a type of sand dune that is commonly found in arid or **desert** regions. It is crescent-shaped, with its tips pointing downwind, and it is formed by the action of wind **(aeolian processes)** carrying and depositing sand grains.
- These processes are essential in shaping desert landscapes, and barchans are a prominent result of wind-driven sand movement. **Hence, pair (1) is NOT correctly matched.**
- **Stalactites** are mineral formations that hang from the ceilings of **caves** and are typically composed of minerals such as **calcium carbonate.** They are the result of the dissolution of **limestone rock,** which is a characteristic of **karst topography.**
- Karst topography is a landscape formed by the dissolution of soluble rocks like limestone and is known for features such as sinkholes, underground caves, and the creation of unique landforms through **chemical weathering processes.** Stalactites are a direct consequence of the dissolution of limestone in karst regions. **Hence, pair (2) is NOT correctly matched.**
- **Moraines** are accumulations of **glacial till,** which is a mixture of rocks, sediments, and debris carried and deposited by **glaciers.** These deposits form various landforms, including **terminal moraines** (at the end of a glacier), **lateral** moraines (along the sides), and **medial** moraines (within the glacier).
- Glaciers are large masses of ice that slowly move under their weight, and as they move, they erode and transport material. **Hence, pair (3) is correctly matched.**

66. (d)

Explanation:

- Since tides are caused by the earth-moon-sun positions which are known accurately, the tides can be predicted well in advance. This helps the **navigators** and **fishermen plan their activities.** Tidal flows are of great importance in navigation.
- Tidal heights are very important, especially harbours near rivers and within estuaries having **shallow 'bars' at the entrance,** which prevent ships and boats from entering into the harbour.
- Tides are also helpful in **desilting the sediments** and in removing polluted water from river estuaries.
- Tides are used to **generate electrical power** (in Canada, France, Russia, and China). **Hence, option (d) is correct.**

67. (b)

Explanation:

- The **Rotterdam Convention** on the **Prior Informed Consent** (PIC) Procedure for Certain **Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides** in International Trade is a global treaty that aims to promote the responsible trade of hazardous chemicals and pesticides. **Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- Adopted in 1998 and entered into force in 2004, it's an important component of international efforts to protect human health and the environment from potentially dangerous substances. It creates a **legally binding obligations** for implementation of the Prior Informed Consent. **Hence, statement (3) is NOT correct.**

The key objectives of the Rotterdam Convention are threefold:

- **Information Exchange:** The convention facilitates the exchange of information about hazardous chemicals and pesticides **between exporting and importing countries.** It ensures that importing countries are aware of the potential risks associated with these substances, allowing them to make informed decisions.
- **Prior Informed Consent (PIC):** Under the PIC procedure, **exporting countries must obtain the informed consent of importing countries** before shipping any hazardous chemical or pesticide listed in the convention's annexes. This process helps prevent the unintentional import and use of dangerous substances.
- **Implementation of Safeguards:** It supports the **development of regulatory** and **management measures** for the safe use of chemicals and pesticides. It aids in minimizing the risks associated with these substances.
- The convention has established a list of chemicals and pesticides subject to PIC procedures, and this list is regularly updated. It covers a wide range of hazardous substances, including industrial chemicals and pesticides, that have been associated with health or environmental risks. **Hence, statement (2) is correct.**

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68. (a)

Explanation:

- The International Whaling Commission (IWC) is an **intergovernmental organization** established in 1946. **Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- Its primary mission is of **conserving and managing the world's whale populations.**
- It was founded in response to concerns about the depletion of global whale populations due to unregulated and excessive commercial whaling.
- It aims to provide for proper conservation of whale products and **orderly development of whaling industry. Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- **Key functions of the IWC include:**
  - **Moratorium on Commercial Whaling:** In 1986, the IWC introduced a moratorium on commercial whaling to allow whale populations to recover from the overexploitation they had endured. An integral part of the Convention is its **legally binding 'Schedule'.**
  - **Scientific Research:** The IWC promotes scientific research on whales and their ecosystems to enhance conservation efforts.
  - **Whale Sanctuaries:** The IWC has established whale sanctuaries in certain regions to provide safe habitats for these marine mammals.
  - **Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling:** The IWC allows indigenous communities to engage in subsistence whaling for cultural and nutritional purposes while setting catch limits to ensure sustainability.
  - **Conservation Measures:** It develops and enforces conservation measures for whale species, addressing threats such as ship strikes, entanglement in fishing gear, and habitat degradation.
- India is its member since 1981, Canada joined it in 1949 but withdrew its membership in 1982. Similarly, Japan joined it in 1951 but withdrew its membership in 2019. **Hence, statement (3) is NOT correct.**

69. (c)

Explanation:

- **The National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) is a comprehensive policy framework developed by the Government of India to address the challenges posed by climate change and promote sustainable development.**
- Launched in 2008, it represents India's commitment to combating climate change while addressing its energy and developmental needs.
- The NAPCC comprises eight national missions that focus on different sectors and aspects of climate action:
  - **National Solar Mission:** Aims to promote solar energy generation and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by increasing solar capacity.
  - **National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency:** Seeks to improve energy efficiency in various sectors like industry, agriculture, and transportation.
  - **National Water Mission:** Aims to ensure the integrated management of water resources and promote sustainable water use.
  - **National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture:** Focuses on ensuring food security and adapting to climate change in agriculture.
  - **National Mission on Sustainable Habitat:** Aims to promote energy-efficient and environmentally sustainable urban development.
  - **National Mission on Green India:** Focuses on enhancing afforestation, reforestation, and biodiversity conservation.
  - **National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture:** Aims to deliver solutions for climate-resilient agriculture, including precision farming and climate-smart practices.
  - **National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change:** Focuses on research, capacity building, and knowledge sharing to address climate change.
- **National Bio-Energy Mission is not a part of it. Hence, option (c) is correct.**

70. (a)

Explanation:

- Integrated Farming System (IFS) is a **holistic** and **sustainable** approach to agriculture that combines various agricultural activities within a single farming system.
- Key components of an IFS typically include **crop cultivation, animal husbandry, fisheries, and agroforestry.** The integration of these diverse activities has several benefits:

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- **Resource Efficiency:** IFS **minimizes waste** and maximizes resource use. For instance, **crop residues can be used as animal feed,** reducing the need for external inputs.
- **Improved Soil Health:** The combination of livestock and crop farming allows for the **recycling of nutrients and organic matter,** leading to enhanced soil health and fertility.
- **Diversification:** By including various agricultural activities, IFS provides **multiple income streams**, reducing the risk associated with a single crop or livestock enterprise.
- **Environmental Sustainability:** IFS promotes sustainable practices, such as **reduced chemical use** and conservation of natural resources.
- **Resilience:** The diversification inherent in IFS makes farming systems more resilient to **market fluctuations** and climate change.

- IFS is particularly valuable in smallholder farming, where limited resources and land make diversification essential.
- It is a strategy that aligns well with the principles of sustainable agriculture, ensuring the long-term well-being of farming communities while conserving natural resources and reducing environmental degradation. **Hence, statement-I and statement-II are correct and statement-II is the correct explanation for statement-I.**

71. (a)

Explanation:

- The **National Bamboo Mission** aimed at promoting the **cultivation, utilization,** and **commercialization** of bamboo resources.
- Launched to harness the full potential of bamboo, the mission encourages bamboo-based economic development, rural livelihoods, and sustainable growth.
- It mainly focuses **on the development of the complete value chain of Bamboo sector** to link growers with consumers.
- **Starting from planting material, plantation, creation of facilities for collection, aggregation, processing, marketing, micro, small & medium enterprises, skilled manpower and brand building initiative in a cluster approach mode. Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- Under the mission, **bamboo grown in non-forest areas** have been exempted from the definition of tree, thereby dispensing with the requirement of felling/transit permit for its economic use. **Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- The objective is to **increase the area under bamboo plantation** in non-forest Government and private lands to supplement farm income and contribute towards resilience to climate change.
- The nodal ministry for National Bamboo Mission is the **Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare. Hence, statement (3) is NOT correct.**

72. (a)

Explanation:

- **Carbon sequestration** is a critical process that involves **capturing** and **storing carbon dioxide** (CO_2) from the atmosphere, primarily to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change.
- It helps reduce the concentration of carbon dioxide; a greenhouse gas responsible for global warming.
- Afforestation, the process of establishing new forests by planting trees in areas where they did not previously exist, is an effective strategy for carbon sequestration.
- Afforestation plays a crucial role in **mitigating climate change** because **trees act** as **carbon sinks.** During photosynthesis, trees take in carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and convert it into biomass, which consists of carbon compounds.
- This process effectively **removes carbon dioxide from the air** and stores it in the form of wood, leaves, and other organic matter.
- As a result, afforestation helps reduce the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, which is vital for combating global warming and its associated impacts.
- The process of trees absorbing carbon dioxide is fundamental to how afforestation helps mitigate climate change. **Hence, statement-I and statement-II are correct and statement-II is the correct explanation for statement-II.**

73. (a)

Explanation:

- **Cold ocean currents** are currents of cold water that flow from higher latitudes toward the equator along the

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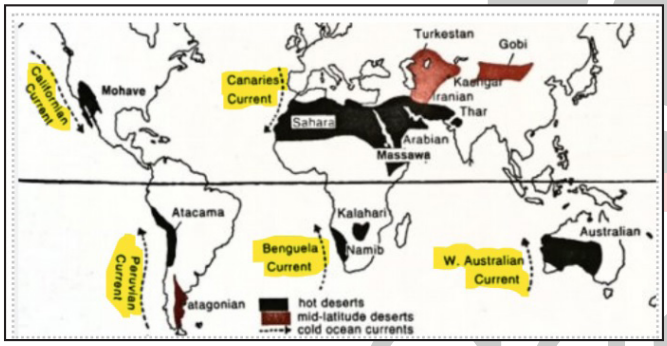
eastern coast of continents. These **currents have a cooling effect on the adjacent coastal regions.** As the cold water moves along the coast, it cools the air above it.

- **Cold ocean currents can cause deserts by:**
  - **Lowering the temperature of the air:** This reduces evaporation rates, which means there's less moisture in the air.
  - **Making it harder for the air to hold moisture:** The air is cooled, making it more difficult to hold moisture.
  - **Generating a thick layer of fog:** The cold winds make the air stable and stop cloud formation. The fog is made up of tiny water droplets that are too small to fall as rain.
- Some deserts that are partially formed by cold ocean currents include: The **Atacama Desert (Peruvian current), The Namib desert (Benguela current) and more. Hence, Both Statement-I and Statement-II are correct and Statement-II is the correct explanation for Statement-I.**



74. (c)

Explanation:

- The **Roaring 40s, Furious 50s and Screaming 60s** are winds that batter the Southern hemisphere, on the fringes of Antarctica. They are located at latitudes between 40 and 50 degrees south of Equator.
- Their names are nods to the latitudes at which they occur in the **Southern Hemisphere** and are terrifying in the intensity they evoke. And with just cause long feared for the devastation they could wreak; their very existence shaped the shipping routes used by the boats that sailed these waters.
- These winds are known for their **powerful and consistent nature** and play a **crucial role in shaping the climate and weather patterns** of the Southern Ocean region. **Hence, option (c) is correct.**

75. (a)

Explanation:

- **Mount Vinson is the highest peak in Antarctica,** at 4,892 meters (16,050 feet) above sea level. It is part of the Vinson Massif, which is a large mountain massif in the Sentinel Range of the Ellsworth Mountains. **Hence, pair (1) is NOT correctly matched.**
- **Mount Elbrus is the highest mountain in Europe.** It is located in Russia. Mont Blanc is the highest peak in Western Europe. **Hence, pair (2) is NOT correctly matched.**
- **Mount Kilimanjaro is the highest peak in Africa,** standing at 5,895 meters (19,340 feet). It's located in Tanzania, near the Kenyan border in East Africa. Kilimanjaro is a dormant volcano with three volcanic cones: Shira, Kibo, and Mawenzi. The highest peak is Kibo. **Hence, pair (3) is correctly matched.**
- The **highest peak in Oceania is Puncak Jaya, also known as Carstensz Pyramid.** It is located in the Sudirman Range in the Indonesian province of Papua.
- **Puncak Jaya is 4,884 meters** (16,024 feet) above sea level. It's the tallest mountain in the southwestern Pacific. **Hence, pair (4) is NOT correctly matched.**

76. (c)

Explanation:

- **Cirrus clouds** are indeed often thin, wispy, and **composed of ice crystals.** They are **high-altitude clouds**, and they do not produce precipitation themselves. **Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- **Cumulonimbus clouds** are **not associated with fair weather** and clear skies. They are, in fact, associated with **thunderstorms, heavy rainfall, and often severe weather,** including lightning and hail. **Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- **Stratus clouds** typically form at **low or middle altitudes** and are generally uniform and cover the sky. They are associated with overcast skies and can bring light drizzle or rain. **Hence, statement (3) is correct.**
- **Nimbostratus clouds are known for their association with steady rainfall.** These are thick, dark, and overcast clouds that can produce continuous and steady precipitation. **Hence, statement (4) is correct.**

77. (a)

Explanation:

- When **salt (dissolved inorganic salts like sodium chloride) is added to water,** it increases the water's

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density. Saltwater, such as seawater, is denser than freshwater because of the additional mass contributed by the dissolved salts.

- This increased density makes objects float more easily in saltwater compared to freshwater. **Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- **Eutrophication** is a process of **excessive nutrient enrichment,** often due to human activities like the runoff of agricultural fertilizers or untreated sewage, leading to the overgrowth of algae and other aquatic plants.
- **Eutrophication** is more **common in freshwater ecosystems,** such as lakes, rivers, and ponds, where nutrient concentrations play a significant role in the growth of plants.
- In saltwater ecosystems like oceans, the nutrient dynamics are different, and excessive nutrient enrichment and eutrophication are not regular occurrences. **Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**

78. (c)

Explanation:

- **Tigray** is a region in the **northern part of Ethiopia.** It is one of the country's nine regional states and has been in the news for several reasons, particularly in recent years.
- Tigray has been at the centre of a conflict between the **Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) and the Ethiopian federal government.** This conflict, which began in late 2020, has resulted in a humanitarian crisis, displacement of people, and significant international attention.
- The Tigray region's **location is geopolitically significant** because it shares borders with Eritrea and Sudan. The conflict in Tigray has had implications for regional stability and international relations in the Horn of Africa.
- Due to the ongoing developments in Tigray, it has received substantial media coverage and international concern. Understanding the region's significance is important in the context of global affairs and regional stability in the Horn of Africa. **Hence, option (c) is correct.**

79. (a)

Explanation:

- **Isobars** are lines on weather maps that connect points of **equal atmospheric pressure.** These lines are commonly used in meteorology to depict and analyse air pressure patterns.
- **Isobars are far spaced and uneven in the Northern Hemisphere,** while they are closely spaced and parallel in the Southern Hemisphere due to presence of large amount of water.
- The wide spacing of isobars in the Northern Hemisphere indicates less pressure gradient. So, Isobars are relatively more parallel to latitude in the Southern hemisphere than the Northern hemisphere. **Hence, statement (1) is NOT correct.**
- **Atmospheric pressure decreases with an increase in altitude.** As you go higher in the atmosphere, there is less air above, and therefore, less pressure. This is a fundamental principle in meteorology. **Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- **Atmospheric pressure** is indeed measured using a **barometer**, which can be in the form of a mercury barometer, aneroid barometer, or other types. **Hence, statement (3) is correct.**

80. (c)

Explanation:

- **Grown only in the tropics, the oil palm tree produces high-quality oil used primarily for cooking in developing countries. Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- It is also used in food products, detergents, cosmetics and, to a small extent, biofuel.
- **It is found in lipstick, soaps, detergents and even ice cream. Hence, statement (3) is correct.**
- Palm oil is a very productive crop.
- **It offers a far greater yield at a lower cost of production than other vegetable oils. Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- Global production and demand for palm oil is increasing rapidly. Plantations are spreading across Asia, Africa and Latin America.
- But such expansion comes at the expense of tropical forests—which form critical habitats for many endangered species and a lifeline for some human communities.
- World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) envisions a global marketplace based on socially acceptable and environment-friendly production and sourcing of palm oil. We aim to encourage increased demand for, and use of, goods produced using such practices.

81. (a)

Explanation:

- There are two strands of environmental philosophy that reinvent the relationship between nature and humans — **shallow and deep ecologism.**

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- **The concepts emerged in the 1970s, when Norwegian philosopher Arne Næss sought to look beyond the popular pollution and conservation movements of his milieu to address environmental degradation.**
- By placing humans at the heart of the environmental crisis, Næss outlines the difference between the two styles of ecologism.
- **He terms the powerful and fashionable fight against pollution and resource depletion as shallow ecologism or environmentalism. Exponents of this philosophy believe in continuing our present lifestyle, but with specific tweaks aimed at minimising the damage to the environment. Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- Also referred to as weak ecologism, it may include the use of vehicles that cause less pollution or air conditioners that do not release chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs). This branch of ecologism primarily serves to maintain the lifestyle of those dwelling in developed countries.
- **On the other hand, deep ecologism believes that humans should radically change their relationship with nature.**
- **Its proponents reject shallow ecologism for prioritising humans above other forms of life, and subsequently preserving the environmentally destructive way of life in modern societies. Hence, statement (1) is correct.**

82. (b)

Explanation:

- **Human-modified ecosystems are shaped by the human activities and their side effects.**
- They **share a common set of traits** including simplified food webs, landscape homogenization, and high nutrient and energy inputs.
- **Ecosystem simplification is the ecological hallmark of humanity and the reason for our evolutionary success.**
- Some examples of human modified ecosystems are:
  - Agro-ecosystems
  - Plantation forests
  - Urban ecosystems
  - Rural ecosystems
  - Aquaculture
  - Industrial areas
  - Laboratory cultures
- Characteristics of human modified ecosystems
  - **Highly simplified**
  - **Species diversity is very low**
  - Food chains are simple and small
  - Depend on human (anthropogenic) support for survival; need for fossil fuel energy, fertilizers, irrigation etc
  - **Attract large number of weeds**
  - More susceptible to epidemic diseases
  - Suffer from soil erosion
  - Highly unstable.

Hence, option (b) is correct.

83. (d)

Explanation:

- The sulphur cycle describes the movement of sulphur through the atmosphere, mineral forms, and through living things.
- Although sulphur is primarily found in sedimentary rocks or sea water, it is particularly important to living things because it is a component of many proteins.
- **Sulphur is released from geologic sources** through the weathering of rocks. Once sulphur is exposed to the air, it combines with oxygen, and becomes sulphate SO_4.
- **Plants and microbes assimilate sulphate and convert it into organic forms. As animals consume plants, the sulphur is moved through the food chain and released when organisms die and decompose.**
- **Therefore, sulphur cycle is driven by both geological and biological processes.**
- **Volcanic and hydrothermal activity discharge sulphur and carbon from the Earth's mantle to the atmosphere and hydrosphere.**
- Sulphur and carbon also dissolve in seawater and are incorporated into sediments before being recycled back into the mantle through subduction.

Hence, statement-I is incorrect but statement-II is correct.

84. (c)

Explanation:

- **International Date Line, also called Date Line, imaginary line extending between the North Pole and the South Pole and arbitrarily demarcating each calendar day from the next.**

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- It corresponds along most of its length to the **180th meridian of longitude but deviates eastward through the Bering Strait to avoid dividing Siberia and then deviate westward to include the Aleutian Islands with Alaska. Hence, option (c) is correct.**
- South of the Equator, another eastward deviation allows certain island groups to have the same day as New Zealand.
- When you cross the date line traveling east, you subtract a day, and if you cross the line traveling west, you add a day.

85. (b)

Explanation:

- **Albedo is the fraction of light that is reflected by a body or surface.**
- **The reflected amount of radiation is called the albedo of the earth. Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- If Earth's climate is colder and there is more snow and ice on the planet, albedo increases, more sunlight is reflected out to space, and the climate gets even cooler.
- **Surfaces with high albedo, such as snow and ice, reflect a significant portion of solar radiation and do not absorb it, which can lead to lower temperatures. Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- Surfaces with low albedo, such as dark forests or oceans, absorb more solar radiation, contributing to higher temperatures.
- **Ice, barren land, and sand have higher albedo while the ocean surface has an intrinsically low albedo. Hence, statement (3) is correct.**

86. (a)

Explanation:

- The **Coromandel coast** in India is one of the most bewitching coastal areas in the world.
- Of the lot, the Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park has a very significant position.
- **The first marine biosphere reserve in South Asia, the Mannar marine park is also one of the richest regions on Earth in terms of biodiversity.**
- **Comprising 21 islands in total, the Mannar marine park includes estuaries, beaches and mudflats that make this region amazingly beautiful.**
- Also, a part of this biosphere are marine components including algae communities, sea grasses, coral reefs, salt marshes and mangroves.
- Home to an affluent diversity of aquatic plants and animals, the national park has identified the presence of around 3600 plant and animal species.
- **These even include endangered species including the sea cow and mangrove species. One can find species of turtles and several other marine species like dolphins, whales, sea cucumber and dugongs.**
- The national park also includes species of seagrass and species of hard coral.

Hence, option (a) is correct.

87. (d)

Explanation:

- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) **was endorsed by the UN General Assembly following the 2015 Third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR). Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- The Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030) is an ambitious agreement that sets out the **overall objective to substantially reduce disaster risk and losses in lives, livelihoods and health and in the economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets of persons, businesses, communities and countries. Hence, statement (3) is correct.**
- The Sendai Framework is the successor instrument to the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters.
- **The Sendai Framework covers technological hazards, in addition to natural hazards,** which represent an evolution compared to its predecessor, the Hyogo Framework for Action. **Hence, statement (4) is correct.**
- These technological hazards include chemical/industrial hazards further to radiological, nuclear, biological, and others.
- The SFDRR aims to reduce the existing disaster risk, level of exposure, and vulnerability to disasters, and to **enhance international cooperation in disaster risk reduction and the availability and access to pre-disaster warnings and post-disaster assessments. Hence, statement (2) is correct.**

88. (a)

Explanation:

- Mangroves actually hold the coastline in place, giving it its shape.

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- **Once they are gone, the land erodes and tides and currents reshape the coastline, making it difficult or impossible for mangroves to grow back in their former habitats. Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- Therefore, the majority of planting efforts are, however, failing.
- A more effective approach is to create the right conditions for mangroves to grow back naturally. Mangroves restored in this way generally survive and function better.
- **Mangroves are found only along sheltered coastlines within the tropical or subtropical latitudes because they cannot withstand freezing temperatures. Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- **More than 40 percent of the global area of mangroves is in four countries: Indonesia (19 percent of the global total), Brazil (9 percent), Nigeria (7 percent) and Mexico (6 percent). Hence, statement (3) is NOT correct.**

89. (b)

Explanation:

- **The earth's surface receives most of its energy in short wavelengths. Hence, statement (1) is NOT correct.**
- The energy received by the earth is known as incoming solar radiation which in short is termed as insolation.
- The amount of insolation received at the surface depends on:
  - sun angle
  - day length
  - the state of the atmosphere.
  - ground slope
  - path length
- The insolation received at the surface varies from about 320 Watt/m^2 in the tropics to about 70 Watt/m^2 in the poles.
- **If the Earth was a flat surface facing the sun, every part of that surface would receive the same amount of incoming solar radiation. Hence, statement (3) is correct.**
- However, because the Earth is a sphere, sunlight is not equally distributed over the Earth's surface, so different regions of Earth will be heated to different degrees.
- **Maximum insolation is received over the subtropical deserts, where the cloudiness is the least. Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- Equator receives comparatively less insolation than the tropics.
- Generally, at the same latitude the insolation is more over the continent than over the oceans. In winter, the middle and higher latitudes receive less radiation than in summer.

90. (b)

Explanation:

- A strait is a narrow body of **water** that connects two larger bodies of **water. Hence, statement (1) is NOT correct.**
- It may be formed by a fracture in an isthmus, a **narrow body of land** that connects two bodies of water. Tectonic shifts can lead to straits like this. **Hence, statement (3) is NOT correct.**
- One strait that was formed by tectonic activity is the **Strait of Gibraltar,** the only link between the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. **Hence, statement (2) is correct.**
- The Strait of Gibraltar is closing, as the African tectonic plate slides north.
- The Eurasian and African tectonic plates drifted apart, creating a waterway between the Atlantic Ocean (to the west) and the Mediterranean Sea (to the east).

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91. (c)

Explanation:

- **Cyclones are rapid inward air circulation around a low-pressure area.** The air circulates in an anticlockwise direction in the Northern hemisphere and clockwise in the Southern hemisphere.
- There are two types of cyclones:
  - **Tropical cyclones;** and
  - **Extra Tropical cyclones (also called Temperate cyclones or middle latitude cyclones or Frontal cyclones or Wave Cyclones).**
- **Tropical cyclones develop in the region between the Tropics of Capricorn and Cancer.** They are large-scale weather systems developing over tropical or subtropical waters, where they get organized into surface wind circulation.
- **Extra tropical cyclones occur in temperate zones and high latitude regions,** though they are known to originate in the Polar Regions.
- An anticyclone is the opposite of a cyclone i.e., it has an outward-spiraling air circulation around a high-pressure centre.
- An anticyclone's winds rotate clockwise in the Northern Hemisphere around a center of high pressure.
- In anticyclones, air comes in from above and sinks to the ground. High pressure centers generally have fair weather.
- Extratropical cyclones are referred to as mid-latitude depressions, temperate cyclones, frontal depressions and wave cyclones.
- **These are active above the mid-latitudinal region between 35° and 65° latitude in both the hemispheres. Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- The direction of movement is from **west to east. Hence, statement (2) is NOT correct.**
- They are more pronounced in the **winter seasons**. **Hence, statement (3) is correct.**
- It is in these latitude zones the polar and tropical air masses meet and form fronts.
- The origin and development of temperate cyclones is best explained by the **Polar Front theory.**
- According to this theory, the warm-humid air masses from the tropics meet the dry-cold air masses from the poles and thus a polar front is formed.
- The cold air mass is denser and heavier and due to this reason, warm air mass is pushed up.
- The approach of a temperate cyclone is marked by a fall in temperature, a fall in the mercury level, wind shifts and a **halo around the sun and the moon,** and a thin veil of **cirrus clouds.**

92. (c)

Explanation:

- First largest indigenous **700 MWe Kakrapar Nuclear Power Plant** (KAPP 3) started working in **Gujarat.**
- **KAPP-3** is also the biggest **indigenously** developed variant of the Pressurized Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR). **Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- In 2020, it had achieved its first criticality (when each fission event releases a sufficient number of neutrons to sustain an ongoing series of reactions).
- PHWRs use **natural uranium** as fuel and **heavy water** as moderator. **Hence, statement (2) is correct.**
- **Enhanced safety features incorporated:**
  - **Thin-walled pressure tubes:** They can lower the severity of an accidental rupture of the pressure boundary.
  - **Passive Decay Heat Removal System:** On lines of similar technology adopted for Generation III+ plants to negate the possibility of Fukushima type accident.
    - **Steel-lined containment:** To reduce the containment pressure in case of a loss of coolant accident.
- India is currently on the **second stage** of its three-stage nuclear program.
- Enrichment of U-235 isotope up to **3 to 5%** is required for electricity generation.
- The Kakrapar Unit-3 is an expansion of the existing nuclear power plant, which already had two operational units, KAPS-1 and KAPS-2, each with a capacity of around 220 MWe (megawatts electrical).
- The third unit is larger and more advanced compared to the first two. Another unit (KAPP 4) has also been constructed and operation here is expected to begin by March 2024.

93. (a)

Explanation:

- **Western Ghats** is home to India's **2 biosphere reserves, 13 National parks,** several wildlife sanctuaries and many Reserve Forests.

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- The **Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve** forms the largest contiguous protected area in the Western Ghats.
- It comprised the evergreen forests of Nagarahole, deciduous forests of Bandipur National Park and Nugu in Karnataka and adjoining regions of Wayanad and Mudumalai National park in the states of Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
- The **Silent Valley National Park** in Kerala is among the last tracts of virgin tropical evergreen forest in India.
- The **Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary, Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary, Bandipur National Park, Nagarhole National Park, Mukurthi National Park and Silent Valley are protected areas within Nilgiri biosphere reserve.**

Hence, option (a) is correct.

94. (a)

Explanation:

- The **Rocky Mountains** are part of a system of parallel mountain ranges known as the Cordilleras. A cordillera is a long series of mountain ranges.
- Although cordilleras exist all over the world, in North America, "the Cordilleras" indicate the massive mountain ranges in the western part of the continent. The Cordilleras extend from Canada all the way to the Isthmus of Panama.
- The **Sierra Madre Mountain system is part of the Cordilleras.** The Sierra Madre stretch from the southwestern United States to Honduras. The Sierra Madre include many high volcanoes (up to 5,636 meters, or 18,500 feet) that stretch across Mexico south of the cities of Guadalajara and Mexico City.
- North America's older mountain ranges, including the Appalachians, rise near the east coast of the United States and Canada. These areas have been mined for rich deposits of coal and other minerals for hundreds of years.
- The coral reefs and cays of the Caribbean Sea are among the most spectacular biomes in North America.
- The **Cascade Range** is a great mountain range in North America that spans all the way from southern British Columbia through to Northern California.

Hence, option (a) is correct.

95. (d)

Explanation:

- **Pakke** Tiger Reserve lies in the **foothills of the Eastern Himalaya** in the East Kameng district of **Arunachal Pradesh.**
  - It is also known as **Pakhui Tiger Reserve.**
  - It falls within the **Eastern Himalayan Biodiversity hotspot.**
- **Buxa Tiger Reserve** is **situated in the Jalpaiguri District, West Bengal.**
  - It was **created in 1983** as the **15th tiger reserve of India.**
  - It was **declared as a National Park in January 1992.**
- **Dampa Tiger Reserve** is located in **Mizoram.** It received the status of a tiger reserve under **Project Tiger.**
- **Namdapha** National Park, **Kamlang Wildlife Sanctuary** and Jairampur Forest Division are located within India's northeastern frontier state–**Arunachal Pradesh. Hence, option (d) is correct.**

96. (c)

Explanation:

- **Slave Coast,** in 18th and 19th-century history, the section of the coast of the Gulf of Guinea in Africa, extending approximately from the Volta River in the west to Lagos in modern Nigeria, or, alternatively, the Niger Delta in the east (in the present-day republics of **Togo, Benin and Nigeria). Hence, option (c) is correct.**
- Although Germans, Danes, French, Portuguese, Swedish, and Spanish made efforts to establish forts and stations in this coastal region, it became primarily a sphere of Afro-British and Afro-Dutch trade in enslaved people and in various commodities.
- **Gulf of Guinea,** part of the eastern tropical Atlantic Ocean off the western Africa coast, extending westward from Cap López, near the Equator at longitude 7° west. Its major tributaries include the **Volta and Niger rivers.**
- The coastline of the Gulf of Guinea forms part of the western edge of the African tectonic plate and corresponds remarkably to the continental margin of South America running from Brazil to the Guianas.

97. (a)

Explanation:

- The **United Nations Security Council,** under the current Presidency of India, on August 30, 2021, adopted a **'resolution 2593' on the situation in Afghanistan, demanding that the war-torn country not be used to threaten or attack any nation or shelter terrorists. Hence, option (a) is correct.**

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- The resolution was put forward by the US, the UK, France. It was adopted after 13 Council members voted in favour, while permanent members Russia and China abstained from the voting.
- The Security Council, recalling its previous resolutions on **Afghanistan** and the relevant statements of its President.
- Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, and national unity of **Afghanistan.**
- Demands that Afghan territory not be used to threaten or attack any country or to shelter or train terrorists, or to plan or to finance terrorist acts, and reiterates the importance of combating terrorism in **Afghanistan,** including those individuals and entities designated pursuant to **resolution 1267 (1999),** and notes the Taliban's relevant commitments.

98. (c)

Explanation:

- The **collective name for peacocks** is peafowl. The male of the variety is called a **peacock** and the female peafowl is called a **peahen.**
- The **Indian peacock** is also the **National Bird of India.**
- **Peafowl (Pavo cristatus)** belongs to the **Phasianidae family**. They are among the **largest of all birds that fly.**
- **Alexandrine Parakeet** is protected under **Schedule 1 (B) of the Wildlife protection act (WPA) 1972.**
  - It is **native to South and South East Asia.**
  - It is **'Near Threatened' in the Red list of the IUCN** and in **Appendix II of CITES.**
  - The male parakeet has a **red ring on its neck** and **red spots on wings.**
- **Tilapia fish**, also dubbed aquatic chicken, has emerged to be **one of the most productive and internationally traded fish foods** in the world. **Hence, option (c) is correct.**
- The culture of **tilapia** has become **commercially popular in many parts of the world** and due to its quick growth and low maintenance cultivation, it was dubbed **aquatic chicken.**
- **Cardinal,** also called **redbird,** any of various medium-size thick-billed species of songbirds of the New World, many with crested heads.

99. (c)

Explanation:

- **Monoclonal antibodies are laboratory-made proteins** that mimic the behaviour of antibodies produced by the immune system to protect against diseases and foreign substances. **Hence, statement (1) is correct.**
- Monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) are artificial antibodies that mimic the activity of our immune systems.
- They are produced through a process that involves extracting specific antibodies from human blood and then cloning them.
- They are **clones of just one antibody,** and they bind to one antigen only. **Hence, statement (3) is correct.**
- They are **made by homogeneous hybrid cells (B cells)** derived from the same parent cell. **Hence, statement (2) is correct.**
- Polyclonal antibodies (PAbs), on the other hand, are a mixture of antibodies that are secreted by different B cell lineages.
- They have been used in the treatment of cancers, Ebola, HIV etc.
- mAbs can effectively bind with a part of the viral envelope that attaches to the human cells to gain entry into the body. This effectively neutralizes the virus.
- Monoclonal antibodies are antibodies produced in labs, using living cells.
- These drugs therefore come under the head 'biologics', which are drugs produced exclusively from living organisms.
- They could also be **'biosimilars'**— biologics that are 'similar' to another 'reference' biologic medicine.

100. (b)

Explanation:

- **Super Blue Moon** is the convergence of three lunar occurrences - **a full Moon, a Supermoon, and a blue Moon.**
- **Blue moon refers to the second full moon within a single month**—a rare event since full moons typically occur once a month. **Hence, statement (1) is NOT correct.**
- When a season experiences four full moons, the third full moon is deemed the blue moon.
- **Super moon** happens when the moon is passing through or is **close to its perigee** and is also a full moon. **Hence, statement (2) is correct.**
- Full moon at perigee (super moon) is about 14% bigger and 30% brighter than a full moon at apogee (called a "micro moon").

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